

JUMP COMICS



男

● 京都府立大学の巻

宮下あきら

鬼男塾 33

COME TO MY SITE
[HTTP://NAMALAK.WORDPRESS.COM/](http://NAMALAK.WORDPRESS.COM/)

CREDITS

SAHS: STRANSEKATAM
TRANSLATION: STRANSEKATAM
CLEAN: HENDRA
TYPESETTING: HENDRA

YOU'RE WELCOME TO UPLOAD THIS SCANLATION IN
ANOTHER WEBSITE. BUT PLEASE WAIT 24 HOURS
BEFORE YOU DO THAT. THANKS

JUMP COMICS

武幻城崩壊//の巻

33



宮下あきら



真友の契り!! の巻

魁!男塾

SEA... HAD
TAKEN A
HARD-CLASP
HAS GONE
THROUGH
SHODON'S
CHEST---!!

H... HAD
DID IT.
BUT TAKEN
---!!



I MADE A MISTAKE

HE HAD A
REPLACE-
MENT BODY
AND
OBSCURED
CORPSE



IT SEEMS THE
TIME HAS
COME... TO
BRING AN
END TO THIS
DESTINED
MATCH



YOU DON'T HAVE
MUCH POWER
REMAINING!!

BUT
YOU'RE
THE SAME,
WARRIOR!!





THAT TIME
TOO WAS A
NIGHT OF A
HAZY
MOON...

DO YOU
REMEM-
BER,
WANT



IN THOSE DAYS,
SARKEN TEMPLE
WAS IN THE
HEIGHT OF A
QUARREL WITH THE
SAVAGE TRIBES.

IT WAS A TIME
WHEN WE JUST
ENROLLED AT
SARKEN TEMPLE
FOR A SHORT
TIME.....!!

WE, WHO HAD
GONE OUT AS
SPIES SO WE
COULD SEARCH FOR
THE ENEMY'S SITU-
ATION AT THAT
CHANCE, CARE-
LESSLY FELL INTO
A TRAP SET BY THE
ENEMY AND HAD
BECOME CAPTURED.





WUOOOT



WUOOOT



THAT TORTURE IS
CALLED CHOU-
SATSU BOULU, A
THING KNOWN
UP BY SEITANGU
IN THE QING
DYNASTY

NOW THERE
HASN'T EVER
BEEN A PERSON
WHO HAS
CAUGHT IN THIS
AND ENDURED IT
TO THE END!

THEY'RE
THE
TRAINING
MONKS AT
THE ABOUB
SHAKEN
TEMPLE
CHOU-BOULU!!

WAAAA,
THAT'S
COM-
PLETELY
A GOOD
PUNISH!!

IN OTHER WORDS, IF
YOU LET GO OF THE
ROPE YOU'RE
HOLDING, YOU WILL
STRANGLE YOUR
PARTNER'S NECK AND
BOTH OF YOU WILL GO
TO THAT WORLD!

THOSE ROPES
THAT ARE BEING
HELD IN YOUR
MOUTHS ARE
YOU AND YOUR
PARTNER'S LIFE-
LINES



WHAT'S WAR
BEHIND WITH
THE MILITARY
FORCE AND
BATTLE
ARRANGS OF
YOUR SHINING
TERRIBLE
-----!!

SO THEN
TALK
-----!!

UGO
!!

GUPU
!!



PUPIL ONE OF
YOU WILL BE
SAVED BY
TELLING US
FIRST!!

WELL, WHICH OF
YOU WANTS
YOUR LIFE---!!



AND THEN,
THEY SAID
IT WAS BY
THE

THE
FORTUNE
BEYOND
IMAGINA-
TION
CONTIN-
UED
THROUGH
OUT THE
NIGHT



WE
BOTH
BELIE
VED...

BUT
WE
DIDN'T
TALK



AND THEN,
WHEN
DAWN
APPROAC
HED...



NOTHING WE
CAN DO WE
CAN ONLY DROP
THEM AND GIVE
THE FARMERS
TO BOTH OF
THEM
TOGETHER!!

OH... HUH...
WHAT'S UP
WITH THEM?

HUH...
AREN'T
THEY
ALREADY
DEAD?





THEY
SUDDENLY
TOOK OUR
BLOW'S. THEY
WEREN'T OUR
MATCH..

WE'D
WAITED
FOR
THAT
MOMENT
!!

AS SUCH,
WE WERE
RESCUED



WHY DID
YOU TELL
THAT
STORY
NOW?



DO YOU
REMEMBER,
MAN.....



THAT'S
JUST ALL
.....



I WAS JUST
REMEMBER-
ING THE
PAST.

WELL I
DON'T UNDER-
STAND
OTHER.



HARHA
---!!

HHHHH!!





GUHA !!



WAN
TAA-
REN
---!!

WA...
WAN
TAA-REN
WAS
KILLED
---!!





ABOUT WHY
SHUNKEN TEMPLE
MUST FIGHT ALL
OF YOU OF GYO-
KOURA, AND
ABOUT
SHUNKAN.....!!

IT'S FINE
EVEN IF I
TALK



IT'S COM-
PLETELY
OVER WITH
THAT.....



BY THE "DARK
TUSKS", THE
DARK ORGAN-
IZATION HAD
ORGANIZED
THIS BATTLE
OF SEVEN
TUSKS!!

MY WIFE
SHUNKAN
WAS KID-
NAPPED AS
A HOSTAGE.





THAT'S THE
REASON
SHINGEN
TEMPLE SUP-
PORTED
THEM!!



AND THEN
THEY
THREADED
A CONDI-
TION.

IF WE WISHED
TO HAVE
SHINGEN
RETURNED, WE
HAD TO FIGHT
OTENGOKU AND
KILL EVERYONE
.....!!



THERE...
WAS
NOTHING I
COULD DO
.....!!

FOR...
FORGIVE
ME, WAN.
.....!!



GAHA
!!







ALRIGHT, WEIRD THOUGHT WITH THE WHOLE SCENARIO OVER: WAS IT JUST ME OR DID THIS ENDING JUST REMIND ME A LOT OF JAKUZEUS? YEAH, THERE WERE A LOT OF DIFFERENCES: THIS WAS A LONG-STANDING RELATIONSHIP WITH A PERSONAL CONNECTION WHILE JAKUZEUS WAS ABOUT TWO EQUAL ENEMIES WHO DIDN'T REALIZE THEIR FRIENDSHIP UNTIL ONE WAS DEAD.

BUT THE FEEL OF THE FINAL CHAPTER WITH THE ENEMY DEFEATED AND THE OKOJO-JUKU CHARACTER GAINING RESPECT IN THEIR END AND RESPECTING WHAT THEY ONCE HAD...THAT IS WHAT MADE IT SO SIMILAR TO THAT FORMER FIGHT. THEN AGAIN THERE WERE OTHER ASPECTS: JAKUZEUS HAD A LOT OF BUILD-UP IN STORY AND BATTLE LEADING TO A SAD BUT SATISFYING CONCLUSION. THIS WAS A SAD CONCLUSION WITH A MORE PERSONAL STEP YET WITH A BATTLE THAT FELT...SORT OF LACKING SINCE IT WAS JUST ULTIMATE TECHNIQUES AND THE FINAL BLOW WITH TAAREN ALREADY USING A LOT OF HIS EFFORT ON THE GENJUTSU FIGHTS WITH THE OTHER MONKS AND CHISHOU.

BUT THEN AGAIN, THE FACT THAT FOUJOU WOULD GO TO THESE LENGTHS JUST TO BRING ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL SCHOOLS OF KENPOU IN THE WORLD UNDER HIS WING...YEAH, WE GET HOW EVIL AND SICK HE IS BUT THIS SORT OF FURTHER DEFINES HIS OBSSESSIVE MEANS.

TN FROM PAGE 12:

A COUPLE THINGS

- "OKOJUTSU SCALE" OR "OKOJUTSU TENENT" + "ROLLED-UP-SUSPENSION SCALE"
-SETABOU, ALSO KNOWN AS SHIPPEN'S DOWAGER COX, IS THE ANAKOUS 47-YEAR LEADING GLEEN OF THE SHUNCHUJONGS DYNASTY, AS STATED IN A PREVIOUS CHAPTER





THOSE
HERETICS OF
THE "DARK
TUNNEL"...!!

ON...FORTH
VARIABLE...!!



HE...KIMONO HAD
HIS OWN WIFE
SHIMIZU TAKEN
HOSTAGE AND
POSSIBLY WITH US
SO HE COULD
TAKE HER
BACK.....!!

WH...
WHAT IS
THIS...!!

怨闘。

再び!! の巻

CHP. 298: GRUDGE
BATTLE: ONCE AGAIN!!



WH...
WHAT
---!!

PUFFPU,
IT'S BEEN A
WHILE,
GENTLEMEN
OF OTOKO-
JUNKU!

TH...
THAT'S,
IT...
CAN'T
BE---!!





CHANGED
INTO A
DEMON OF
REVENGE
SO I CAN
KILL ALL
OF YOU!

YES!
TODDOW
HYONE HAS
COME BACK
FROM HELL!!



BUT I, AS
YOU CAN SEE,
AM IN FRONT
OF ALL OF
YOU!

FLONHONG,
YOU'RE
REALLY
SUSPENSE.



TH...THAT
GUY,
HE'S ... IN
THIS
PLACE...!!



TH...THAT
GUY WAS
TRULY
TAKEN BY
MY
HANDS...!!

BUT THAT
WOULDN'T
SETTLE MY
FEELINGS.

**FULL
THROTTLE**

IF I WERE
TO JUST
MERELY KILL
ALL OF YOU, I
EASILY COULD
HAVE DONE IT
ANYTIME.

THESE
WOUNDS
ARE
ACHING—!!

BECAUSE THE
"DARK
TURKS" ARE
ONE OF MY
ORGANIZA-
TION.

THE KIDNAP-
PING OF
EDALINE AND
THIS "BATTLE
OF SEVEN
TURNS" WERE
ALL MY DEED.



YOU'VE
BETRAYED ME
AND LOWERED
YOURSELF TO
THE CAMP STATE
OF OTOKOSUKU.



ALL SOUND.
YOU'VE
DONE
WELL.



WE'RE NOT
FATHER AND
SON BECAUSE,
AFTER ALL,
WE'RE NOT
CONNECTED BY
BLOOD.

YOU TOO
CAN'T
LIVE!!





SO YOU CAN
OBTAIN THE
REMAINING
THREE FLOPPY
DISKS.

ALL OF YOU FROM
HERE WILL
SEPARATE TO
THREE GROUPS AND
GO TOWARDS
SEVERAL DIFFERENT
LANDS BY THREE
HELICOPTERS



WH...
WHAT
DOES
THAT
MEAN...
...??

SE... SEPARATE
TO THREE
GROUPS
AND GO... TO
DIFFERENT
LANDS...??



TIME
TAKEN!! THIS
IS YOUR
SEPARATION LIST.

BUT I SAY
THAT THE TRUE
BATTLE OF THE
"BATTLE OF
SEVEN TIGERS"
IS JUST
STARTING
FROM HERE

FUFFFU,
THAT WILL
HAVE THE
BEST
INTERESTING



WH...
WHAT...??
SEPARATION
LIST...??

I CAN SAY
THAT THE
BATTLE-UP
TO NOW
HAVEN'T
SURPASSED
HERE ENTERTAINMENT







THAT'S
REAL

OH,
THAT'S
RIGHT.



I WISH
FOR
FORTUNES
IN WAR
FOR ALL
OF YOU.

PU, SO
THEN
FAREWELL.



WHEN, BY ANY
CHANCE, YOU
OBTAIN THE
REMAINING THREE
FLOPPY DISKS
AND RESCUE
SHAMRAH, SHE
WILL BE
RETURNED
ALONGSIDE.

SHAMRAH
IS FINE.



WA...
WAIT,
SQUCKET
SQU!

MAH,
HE
WONT
GO
BACK
ALREADY



UWAHHAHA,
THAT WILL
BE ALSO-
LOVELY
UNBELIEV-
ABLE!!



KURUY!



AS HE SAID:
THE
PRINCIPAL'S
LIFE IS IN HIS
HANDS.

WE CAN
ONLY
ENDURE
THIS.



UWAH
HAHA
-----!!



OW,
N...NOW
THREE HELI-
COPTERS ARE
DESCENDING
TOWARDS
HERE-----!!





AS LISTED BY
INSTRUCTIONS OF
FOURDA-SAMU
EARLIER, SPLIT
INTO THREE
SQUADS!!

WELL, BOARD
QUICKLY!!



SHUT UP,
THAT'S MY
LINE!!

WHY AM I
TOGETHER
WITH YOU
AGAIN?

THERE'S
NOTHING
WE CAN
DO:
SHALL
WE GO!!



THIS MAY
BE OUR
FAREWELL
IN THIS
LIFE!!

AS HE SAID,
THE
BATTLES
FROM HERE
SHOULD BE
TO THE
FINAL
BATTLE...!!



EVERYONE,
LISTEN.



OOOH---!!
LET'S DO
THIS
---!!

WE'LL
RESCUE THE
PRINCIPAL
AND THIS TIME
THAT OLD MAN
TOUBOU WON'T
REVIVE
---!!



UNDER THE
FLAG OF
OTOKO-
JUNKU!!

BUT
WHEREVER
WE GO, OUR
HEARTS ARE
ALWAYS
ONE!!



ALL OF US
WILL BE
TOGETHER
AGAIN---!!

EVERY-
ONE, BE
WELL
---!!



I WILL GO
TOGETHER
WITH ALL
OF YOU.

HAN
TAKEDA,
WHAT
ABOUT
YOU?



WHERE ARE
OUR OTHER
COLLEAGUES
GOING TO BE
LEAD TO?

IT'S BEEN
ALREADY FIVE
HOURS
SINCE WE'VE
DEPARTED
SUNKEN
TEMPLE...

WHERE ARE
WE GOING TO
BE LEAD TO
THIS TIME BY
THIS HELICOPTER?



THE FOURTH FLOPPY
DISK. THE SENIOR
HANDED THIS TO ME
BEFORE WE TOOK
OFF.

YES, SIR. I
HAND THIS
OVER TO
YOU.



RIGHT AFTER ALL
OF YOU DEPARTED
FROM OTOKOJURU,
I ENGAGED WITH
ALL THE EFFORTS
OF MY INFOR-
MATION NETWORK AND
FOUND IT OUT!!

I KNEW
.....!!



DID YOU
KNOW??

THAT TOUGOU
WAS THE WIRE-
FLAYER OF
THIS "BATTLE
OF SEVEN
TUSKS"!!?



AT THERE, I
ALREADY HAVE
ON STANDBY THE
BEST HELPER.

AND I KNOW OF
THE WHERE-
ABOUTS OF THE
FIFTH TUSK.
WE'RE HEADED
TOWARDS NOW.



TH...THE
BEST
HELPER
.....!!?

PUPPUL
I'M CERTAIN
HE'S THE
BEST
HELPER...!!



WE'VE ARRIVED
AT OUR PLACE
OF DESTINA-
TION!! FROM
NOW THE
CHAPTER WILL BE
ENTERING OUR
LIVING
ORGANISM!!

I AM
INFORM-
ING ALL
STUDENT
OF OTO-
KOURU!!





A...CASTLE
.....!!

A...AND,
IT'S
JAPAN
.....!!



OF
COURSE!!
THIS HERE
IS CERTAINLY
JAPAN!!

WELL, YOU
HAVE THAT
STUPID HAIR
AS EVER,
TORAEM!!



DID... YOU
GUY HERE IS
JAPAN...!!

IT...
CAN'T
BE!!



IT'S BEEN A
WHILE. IT
CAN'T BE THAT
YOU'VE FOR-
GOTTEN MY
NAME!!

TO...TO...
TOGASHI?
TOGASHI
GENJI
----!!



HUH!!

Y...
YOU'RE
----!!

HEH...I REALLY DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY NOW REGARDING THAT SHOW. I MEAN, YOU KNOW I LOVE TOGASHI AND ALL, BUT...I GUESS WITH HIM BEING GONE FOR SUCH A LONG TIME AT THIS POINT (WELL, OK, ABOUT TWO VOLUMES) COMPARED TO SOME OF HIS OTHER "EVENTUALS" (CHECK HIS LONGEST "UNPROVED DEATH" WAS ABOUT A VOLUME OR SO IN TIME AFTER THE HIGH FIGHT) THAT FOR ONCE I ACTUALLY WAS SORT OF USED TO HIM BEING DEAD. BUT...WHILE IT'S GREAT TO HAVE HIM BACK, IT JUST FEELS WEIRD HE IS, AS IF HE COULD NEVER STAY DOWN...OR THAT WE WEREN'T GOING TO HAVE THE COMMENTARY OF HARLEQUIN AND PHAROAH COMING UP SO WHY NOT BLUNTS THE CLASSIC PLOT?

ASIDE FROM THAT...WELL, THE SERIES IS PICKING UP STEAM AS IF IT'S MOVING FASTER, BUT I CAN'T QUITE SAY IT'S MOVING "BETTER". FIRST OF ALL IS JUST THE WHOLE PROMINENCE OF TOUDOU BEING BEHIND THE SEVEN TUSKS MATCHES, WHICH WAS ALREADY SORT OF KNOWN FROM HIS MOCKING EDALINA BEFORE. IF HE WAS THE "MAN BEHIND THE CURTAIN" AND REVEALED IN A MORE CONSTRUCTIVE WAY...WELL, IT WOULD HAVE MADE SENSE EVEN IF IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN POPULAR WITH ME.

BUT...THE FACT THAT WE ALREADY KNEW WITH THE ALCAZAR FIGHTS AND THIS MERELY WAS JUST HIM TELLING THE OYOKOJUKU STUDENTS WHAT HE ALREADY TOLD EDALINA...WELL, IT JUST FEELS LIKE HE HAS GOTTEN SO BORED (AND MIYASHITA UNDER THE WIRE) THAT HE JUST WANTS TO OPENLY MOCK THEM BY REVEALING HE WAS BEHIND IT ALL THIS TIME. SECOND...WELL, WAY TO DESTROY ALL THE TENSION REGARDING SHUNSHIN. IT'S NOT LIKE IT REALLY MATTERS SINCE KENNODI IS DEAD AND WAN TAAREN IS PROBABLY NOT GOING TO HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH HER NOW. CHECK, THEY DON'T EVEN SAY WHO IS GOING TO LEAD THE TEMPLE NOW THAT THEIR FIST EMPEROR DIED AGAINST HIS GREATEST RIVAL! BUT AT LEAST HAVE A BIT OF TENSION REGARDING THE MATTER AND PERHAPS A BIT OF AN ENIGMA THAT SHOWS THE FUTURE OF THAT TEMPLE INSTEAD OF JUST SAYING "OH YEAH, HER...SHE'S ALIVE AND WITH ME, I'LL RETURN HER..." (AND BTW, SHE'S NEVER MENTIONED OF AGING THERE! I SORT OF WISH WE GOT A BIT MORE TENSION REGARDING HIM AND SORU! EVEN WITH THAT STUPID "HE'S NOT MY FATHER" REVELATION HE ALREADY HAD EARLIER IN THE ARC. MAYBE IF THE TOUNDOU REVELATION CAME AT A TIME WHERE IT MADE MORE SENSE OR MATTERED, IT WOULD HAVE LEAD TO A GREAT MOMENT CONFRONTING THE TWO OF THEM...BUT NO, TOUNDOU JUST PASSES HIM OFF AMONG ALL THOSE HE HATES AND KEEPS GOING WAY TO LONG RELEVANCE, SORU).

AND FINALLY...THERE'S THE "SENDING OFF EVERYONE TO THREE DIFFERENT PLACES FOR THE LAST THREE FLOPPY DISKS" SCENARIO. THIS COULD HAVE BEEN ACTUALLY A FUN SCENARIO ALLOWING FOR US TO SEE THE INTERACTION AND EVOLUTION OF CHARACTERS BEYOND THEIR TYPICAL MAGE GROUP. BUT...BADLY, THE ONLY ONE WE SEE IS "TEAM ROMO", WHICH STINKS CONSIDERING THAT THE SECOND GROUP HAS CHARACTERS WHO HAVE YET TO FIGHT ONCE IN THIS ARC (SAY HI, RADEN AND SHU KUGURE). HECK, EVEN BENAKU DIDN'T HAVE A LEGITIMATE FIGHT IN THAT GROUP EVEN WITH HIS FIGHT WITH ROMO AS A BAD GUY...AND LET'S NOT GET STARTED ON WHAT J AND TOUNDOU GOT. BUT...WITH THE WAY THINGS WERE GOING, I GUESS THEY JUST WANTED TO GET TO THE LAST THREE DISKS WITHOUT A TON OF DEVELOPMENT FURTHER.

THOUGH...I'M SORT OF SICK OF THE WHOLE "THE NEXT SET OF ENEMIES ARE WAY STRONGER THAN THE ONES YOU JUST FOUGHT WHO WERE USED THEMSELVES ONCE UPON A TIME" I GUESS IT'S ALL PART OF A MOCKING CLICHE THAT MIYASHITA IS DOING, BUT REMEMBER: JUST BECAUSE YOU FIGHT SOMEONE LATER DOESN'T MAKE THEM STRONGER THAN THE PREVIOUS TEAM. (OH SHOULD WE GO INTO THE WHOLE "PHAROAH SPARK IS STRONGER THAN MOST OF 'HOLYDENPARK' ARGUMENT AGAIN...AND LET'S NOT GET STARTED ON HOW OLYMPUS COULD HAVE PROBABLY CLEANED THE FLOOR WITH MOST OF SHUNSHIN AND POORON KOLUDINLOL BUT HEY, AT LEAST WITH TOGASHI BACK, WE SHOULD HAVE...WELL, SOMETHING INTERESTING TO TALK ABOUT WITH THE NEXT SET OF FIGHTS.



TO...
TOGASHI
.....?



A... ARE
YOU
REALLY
THAT
TOGASHI
.....?



迷宮・武幻城!! のま



I'M THE
GENUINE OTO-
KOSUMI
SECOND-YEAR,
TOGASHI
SENJI!

HEY, ARE
THERE ANY
OTHER GOOD
GUYS WITH
THE NAME OF
TOGASHI?





CHP. 299:
LABYRINTH:
BUGEN CASTLE!!

迷宮

武幻城!! の巻

YES. ALL OF YOU
HAD SOMETHING
IMPORTANT YOU
WERE LEFT WITH
BY BOJANG-
DONG

RIGHT...
WAS TASHEN
YOU DID SAVE
TOGASHI....
...!!

TASHEN TOLD ME
AFTER YOU ALL
LEFT OTOKOJUKU
I TOO DEPARTED
FROM BEHIND AND
WATCHED OVER
ALL OF YOU FROM
THE SHADOWS.

(ON WHAT...THEN WHY WAS HE AT OTOKOJUKU AFTER THE FIRST TUGAT?)

I MUST GO
FOR A
CERTAIN
PURPOSE...
...!!

BUT
THAT'S AS
FAR AS I
GO

BUT THEN IT'S
LIKE THIS WITH
THE PHYSICAL
AND EMOTIONAL
STRENGTH
THAT'S LIKE A
MONSTER FOR
HIM.

I DEVOTED
MYSELF TO THE
SECRETS OF
MEDICINE THAT
FORGEMAN
THREE-THOUSAND
YEARS OF
HISTORY IN CHINA
AND SAVED HIS
LIFE.

A
CERTAIN
PURPOSE
.....!!?

A...
MONS
TER...
...!!?



BEFORE I
LEAVE, I WILL
EXPLAIN ABOUT
THIS CASTLE!

THE NAME OF THIS
CASTLE IS BUGEN
CASTLE! IT'S ALSO
THE TOKUGAWA
URAOKI MILITARY
CASTLE.

IT WAS THE
HIDDEN CASTLE
SAID TO BE BUILT
BY TOKUGAWA
IYEMASA THE
FAMOUS ADMIRAL
FOUR HUNDRED
YEARS AGO.

TO...
TOKUGAWA
IYEMASA
H...HIDDEN
CASTLE..!!

BUT ONE OF HIS ANXIET-
IES WAS THERE WOULD
CONTINUE TO BE A
PEACEFUL WORLD LIKE
SUCH AND THAT WARRIORS
WOULD FORGET HOW TO BE
WARRIORS; AND WHEN
THERE WAS AN EMER-
GENCY, THEY WOULD COME
TO BE IN A STATE WHERE
THEY COULDN'T FIGHT AND
THE TOKUGAWA RULE
WOULD BE OVER-
THROWN.....!!



AT THE TIME
HE OPENED
THE TOKUGAWA
BAKUFU, HE
PREDICTED
THEIR RULE
WOULD
CONTINUE FOR
"MANY
HUNDREDS OF
YEARS."

THE MAN
CALLED
IEYASU WAS
A WISE MAN
WHO POS-
SESSED
FORESIGHT



AND THUS THESE
MASTERS FLED UPON
FURTHER TRAINING AT
THIS CASTLE, IMPROVING
THEIR SKILLS UP
THROUGH THE GENERA-
TIONS OF THEIR DESCEN-
DANTS; THEY ALWAYS
MOVED IN SECRET AS THE
TOKUGAWA BAKUFU'S
BATTLE CORP. OF THE
STRONGEST SHADOWS.

IT WAS THERE THAT
IEYASU SENT DOWN A
SECRET ORDER TO THE
DAIMYO OF VARIOUS
FEDERAL CLANS, HAD
THEM PRESENT ONLY
EXPERTS WHO HAD
MASTERED SECRETS
FROM ALL STYLES OF
GRAPPLING, SWORDS-
MANSHIP AND KUNJUTSU,
AND GATHERED THEM AT
THIS BUGEN CASTLE.





SO, YOU CAN
SEE, THIS
BUZEN CASTLE
IS THE HEAD-
QUARTERS OF
JAPAN'S
MARTIAL ARTS.

AND NOW, THEIR
DESCENDANTS
ARE AWAITING
US WITHIN.



THEIR
DESCEN-
DANTS...
...IT

THE...
HEADQUAR-
TERS OF
JAPAN'S
MARTIAL
ARTS...!!



EVEN IN THE
PRESENT,
THEIR POWER
IS NEEDED!!

SOMEWHERE
IN THE
WORLD,
THERE ARE
THOSE WHO
WISH FOR
THIS POWER
TO MAKE
THEIR OWN!!



WHY DO THEY
CONTINUE TO
DO IT TO THIS
DAY EVEN
AFTER THE
COLLAPSE OF
THE SHOGUN?

BUT WHY,
RYU
TAKASHI







HERE IS THE
ENTRANCE TO
THE CASTLE
TOWER.



IT'S
COMMON
SENSE FOR A
DOOR TO A
CASTLE
TOWER TO
BE SMALL.

SO THE SHINY
WOG TRYING TO
INVADE CAN'T COME
IN WITH A LARGE
NUMBER.



THIS BUILDING
IS AWFULLY
WIDE. BUT THE
ENTRANCE HALL
IS AWFULLY
SMALL.

THAT'S NOT A
CASTLE TOWER
THAT SHOULD
BE A CONTROL
TOWER OF THE
CASTLE WITH A
FELLOW LORD.



OH--!!
THIS IS
THE PRESENCE OF
THE
OTOKU-
JUKU
SEVEN
---!!

GET YOUR
STOMACH
TOGETHER
AND COME
ON OUT
----!!



ALRIGHT,
I'LL MAKE
A SPEECH

HE--!!
UNDER-
STOOD



SHAM!!
THEY'RE
POORING
HEAT



IN THAT CASE,
WE'LL ENTER
AS WE PLEASE
---!!

HEY---NO
ONE IS
HERE---!!



WHAT IS
THE POWER
OF THE
CASTLE?

IT'S...AS IF WE'RE
JUST CONTINUING
THROUGH THE
CORRIDOR HUN-
DERING NO MATTER
WHERE WE END UP
WITHOUT ANY INDI-
CATIONS OF
PEOPLE.



MAINTENANCE
FLOOR
IT

THAT IS CALLED THE NIGHTINGALE-FLOOR; IT HAS COME TO BE SET UP TO MAKE A SOUND ON PURPOSE SO INTRUDER IS EASY TO DISCOVER.



EVERY TEAM
HAS RULES

AND THEN
CONSIDER
MAKING A
STRANGE
ALLOY



ARE YOU
NOT
APPEARING
BECAUSE
YOU SCARED
-----??

WHAT IS
THEY'Z
THEIR
REALLY
NO ONE
HERE-----!!



TH. THIS IS
THE MIZORU
CORRIDOR...IT

WE'VE
BEEN
WALKING
FOR OVER
AN HOUR
ALREADY

I...I'M
ALREADY
EXHAUSTED

IT COMES TO
BE MADE UP
LIKE A MAZE
AND ABSO-
LUTELY IMPOSS-
IBLE TO
ESCAPE IF AN
ENEMY GOES
IN.....

HE...HEY,
SOMEHOW IT'S
LIKE WE'VE
BEEN GOING
AROUND AND
AROUND THE
SAME PLACE
-----!!



SO...SOME
VERY SMALL
THINGS ARE
COMING TO
HERE-----?

L...LOOK,
WH...WHAT
IS THAT
-----!!

TM "MIZORU CORRIDOR" OR "MIZORU KASCO" =
"SKILLFULLY-PERPLEXING CORRIDOR"



A FURAKURI DOLL, OR FURAKURI DOLL, IS A
POPULAR FIGURE OF JAPANESE FROM THE 17TH
TO 19TH CENTURY, WHICH IS GENERALLY A SMALL
DOLL USED TO SERVE TEA IN A TEA CEREMONY.



WELL...RYUUT
DOES THAT
AGAIN THERE??

O...ON THIS
SPRING DAY - WHEN
THE CHERRY
BLOSSOMS BLOOM -
IN THE VEIN OF
THE BOYS OF
SEVEN YOUNG -
WE'LL NOW BE
SCATTERED
AROUND

ひさかたの
春のどけき春の日に
七人の若
者の散らるる
實の散らるる

THE FIRST THREE OF THE STORY HAVE BEEN TRANSLATED BY THE MANGA NEWS SERVICE. THE LAST TWO HAVE BEEN TRANSLATED BY THE MANGA NEWS SERVICE. THE MANGA NEWS SERVICE IS A SERVICE THAT PROVIDES MANGA TRANSLATIONS FOR THE MANGA NEWS SERVICE. THE MANGA NEWS SERVICE IS A SERVICE THAT PROVIDES MANGA TRANSLATIONS FOR THE MANGA NEWS SERVICE.



PL. IT SEEMS
THAT DOLL IS
THE PATH
GUIDE FOR
US



THIS IS
EXTREMELY
STUPID
BEHAVIOR.

WHAT
EXACTLY
ARE THEY
THINKING?







I WILL TELL
YOU THE
MEANING OF
THAT SONG.



ON THIS SPRING
DAY, WHEN THE
CHERRY BLOSSOMS
BLOOM, IN THE
VIVID SKY, THE
BODIES OF SEVEN
YOUNGS SHALL
NOW BE SCATTERED
AWAY.



ON THIS GLOOMY
SPRING DAY FEED
FOR THE BLOOMING
OF CHERRY
BLOSSOMS, AT ANY
DATE SEVEN YOUNG
MEN SHALL DELIVER TO
THEIR DEATHS.

IN OTHER WORDS,
THAT IS AN ITEM
COMPOSED OF
YOUR DESTINIES
FROM HERE.



THIS SNOW-STORM
OF CHERRY
BLOSSOMS WILL
BE CHANGED INTO
DEEP CRIMSON,
THE COLOR OF
YOUR BLOOD...!!

MY NAME IS
YUKINOJOU,
ONE OF THE
BUGEN CASTLE
FOUR BATTLE-
HERMITS!!



EXCEL-
LENT---!!
SHOULDN'T WE
DO THIS TO THE
END---!!

WH...WHAT?
THAT
SNOWBIRD
GUY IS
SIPPING ON
TEA---!!

BUGEN
CASTLE
FOUR
BATTLE-
HERMITS
.....!!

IN SOME WAYS, THIS CHAPTER FEELS LIKE WE'RE STARTING ANOTHER WHAT COULD BE COOL CONCEPT IN CONJUNCTION TO THE SEVEN TUSKS ARC...BUT DON'T REALLY HAVE TOO MUCH TO EXPECT FROM IT. CONSIDERING THE HUGE MESS THE ARC HAS BEEN UP TO NOW, NOTHING CAN REALLY BE TAKEN FOR GRANTED. TAKE TODOSHIN'S RETURN FOR ONE THING: I'M STILL TRYING TO FIGURE OUT WHEN THE WICKO WAP TAIKEN WOULD HAVE THE TIME TO SUDDENLY LEAVE THE SCHOOL, HEAD TODOSHIN (AND NOT, YOU KNOW, AKASHI)...OR MAYBE PREVENT JEMADU FROM LOOKING SO ALIEN, AND THEN HIDE AWAY UNTIL HE DECIDES TO INVADE SHIMIZEN TEMPLE? ONE EVEN SAW A PROGRESS REPORT WITH TAIKEN AT ONE POINT LIKE WE SAW WITH ISOGUNA FOR SO LONG DURING THE PREVIOUS ARC, SO HE COULDN'T HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING BEHIND THAT CLOSELY?

REGARDLESS OF MY COMPLAINTS, THOUGH, THE ONLY BIT OF GOOD NEWS IS THAT TODOSHIN IS JUST TOO GREAT A CHARACTER TO EVER BE AFFECTED BY THE SUDDEN SCREW UPS THE PLOT HAS BEEN GOING THROUGH AS OF LATE. (SEE ALL HIS LINES IN THIS CHAPTER OTHERWISE, THE WHOLE IDEA OF A MERO JAPANESE CASTLE CUT AWAY PROTECTING THE NATION IN SECRET SINCE THE TORIISAMA SHOGUNATE IS JUST TOO NEAT A CONCEPT TO REALLY...WE'LL BE THROWN IN AFTER WHAT WAS ESSENTIALLY THE HQ OF ALL CHINESE KEMPOU...WHICH MAKES ME WONDER IF THIS IS THE FIFTH TUSK, WHAT ARE THE OTHER OTORAJUKU FIGHTERS DOING ABOUT NOW?) WELL...LET'S JUST HOPE WE GET AT LEAST ONE COOL FIGHT...MAYBE TWO...WE'LL SEE WHAT HAPPENS.



NATIONAL DIET





THEY HAVEN'T
ABANDONED
TOKYO YET.

IT'S FORMING
UP A NEST
RIGHT IN THE
MIDDLE OF A
CITY WITH ITS
DIRTY AIR.



PL, UNDER-
STOOD. IF I
WERE TO DIE
NOW, THEN
THERE WOULD
BE MANY
PLEASED
PEOPLE.

WELL,
PLEASE
GLADLY
DON'T CAUSE
A PROBLEM
TO US SP.



THIS...
THIS
IS... IT

HOW...
WHAT
HAPPEN,
SIR...??



GUH!!



OH... QUICKLY
CALL AN AMBU-
LANCE-----!!

N... NO, IT'S
A HEART
ATTACK
-----!!



HAS GOTTEN
YOUR LIFE
-----!!

SHIBU, ONE
OF DUGEN
CASTLE'S
FOUR
BATTLE-
HEROES,



PAPA,
YOU
WOULD
NEED AN
AMBU-
LANCE.

HE IS
ALREADY
READY



IN THE LORD OF THE CASTLE IS ACTUALLY "KODAI-KIMONO" WHICH I DON'T KNOW THE NAME AT ALL
 WHILE "SHIKIBU" IS SHIKIBU AKA OF KODAI-KIMONO!



妖刀

CHP. 300: THE
 BEWITCHED SWORD:
 SHIRANUI!!

不知火!! の巻



IN ANY SORT OF
WORLD, THE SCOURGES OF THE
TIMES WILL CERTAINLY NEED OUR
POWER.

AFTER ALL, POLITICS AND
VIOLENCE ARE
INEPAREBLE AS
TWO SIDES OF
THE SAME COIN

.....II



DON'T WIND
ME, I'VE
KEPT THEM
WAITING.....II

MY NEXT
CLIENT HAS
BEEN IN THE
ANTHCHAM-
BER SINCE
EARLIER...II



WE WILL
NEVER BE
KNOWN TO
THE
GENERAL
PUBLIC OF
THE WORLD

THEREFORE, THE
DUCEN CASTLE
WAS EXISTED
WITHOUT DYING
OUT FROM THE
WORLD OF
TOKUGAWA TO
NOW LIVE THIS

THEY'VE ARRIVED
AND BEING
WELCOMED BY
YUWINGJOLU, ONE
OF THE BUSHIN
CASTLE FOUR
BATTLE-HERMITS.

FUJI
THEY'RE
HELPLESS
GUYS.

THEY SURELY
ARE HAVE THE
WISDOM
LUCK...IT



THOSE ARE
THE PARTY
CALLED
OTOGU-
JUNJU?

YES.





WHAT IS
THAT
IDOT
SAYING
—!!

WELL...RIGHT!
EVEN IF HE
DIDN'T SAY IT
SEEMING
LIKE HE WAS
A SNOR, IT'S
AT RIGHT
NOW!!



I DON'T
WANT YOU
TO HURRY
TO YOUR
DEATH.

HOW
ABOUT
SOME
TEA?



WELL...WHAT
ARE YOU
THINKING—!!
THERE MAY
BE POISON IN
IT—!!



WELL, THAT'S
JUST FINE.
I AM
THIRSTY.



NO...
NOMO
—!!

IN THOSE DAYS, AN OLD
SWORDSMITH WHO WAS
THE GREATEST OF HIS
DAY AND HAD THE
HIGHEST OF HONORS
NAMED UMEYOSHI
MIFUJII, WHO WAS AN
EMPLOYEE OF THE TAIRA,
LIVED IN A MOUNTAIN
HAMLET CALLED SANJOU.



THE SWORD WAS
MADE ABOUT 800
YEARS BEFORE
TODAY, BEFORE
THE EXISTENCE OF
THE KAMAKURA
SHOGUN WHERE
THE TAIRA AND
MINAMOTO SPLIT
THE WORLD IN TWO
AND FOUGHT.



THERE'S ONLY ONE
MAN SURVIVE...!!
THEY EXCLUDED
THE SWORDSMITH,
WHO HAD GONE OUT
IN SEARCH OF ORE
TO BE USED FOR
CREATING SWORDS
IN THE DISTANT
MOUNTAINS...!!



THEY CAME TO
KILL EVERY
PERSON IN THE
TOWN, EVEN
DOWN TO THE
WOMEN AND
CHILDREN.



BUT ONE DAY,
THAT TOWN
WAS INVADED
BY THE
SOLDIERS OF
THE MINAMOTO,
WITH IT AS A
LAND RELATED
TO THE TAIRA.



IN BOTH
HANDS
WERE
POSS-
ESSED
LARGE
WATER
BUCKETS

AND
THAT,
WHEN
NIGHT
CAME,
THE
SWORD-
SMITH
STOOD
UP.



HIS BELOVED
WIFE, SON
AND GRAND-
CHILDREN
WERE
KILLED

THE SWORD-
SMITH'S
DESPAIR
AND ANGER
AT THE
PEOPLE OF
THE VILLAGE
ALL BEING
KILLED WAS
A TREMEN-
DOUS.



THE SWORD-
SMITH TOOK
THE BLOOD
THAT WAS
FLOWING FROM
ALL OF THE
CORPSES OF
HIS FAMILY
AND THE VI-
LAGERS AND
STARTED TO
GATHER THEM
IN THE
BUCKETS.



FROM THERE,
THE SWORD-
SMITH
TRANSPORTED
THE BUCKETS
TO HIS OWN
WORKSHOP.

IMME-
DIATELY THE
BUCKETS
WERE
FILLED UP.



FOR DECADES AFTER, IT CAME
TO BE THE SOURCE OF THE FALL
OF THE MINAMOTO. WHEN
MINAMOTO-NO-SANETOMO, THE
3RD GENERATION SHOGUN, WAS
ASSASSINATED BY THE SCHEME
OF HOUJOU YOSHITOMO, THE
SWORD IN THE HAND OF
"KUNYO", THE NEPHEW OF
SANETOMO THAT LOPPED OFF
HIS HEAD WAS, WITHOUT A
DOUBT, THIS SHIRANUI...

THAT IS
THE
SWITCHED
SWORD
SHIRANUI
.....!!



BUT THE
SWORDSMITH
FULFILLED HIS
REVENGE.

I DON'T
KNOW HOW
IT PASSED
INTO HIS
HANDS.





SO THEN,
WHAT CAME
OF THAT
SYND
AFTER THAT?

PUPU,
INTEREST-
ING....!



HOW WAS
THAT?



THAT SWORD WAS
ALWAYS THERE
WITHIN THE
SHADOWS OF
BLOOD-STAINED
HISTORY.

IN A CERTAIN ERA,
IT WAS SAID TO BE
POSSESSED BY
OGA NEBUMASA. IN
ANOTHER ERA, IT
WAS POSSESSED
BY A SAMURAI SAID
TO BE A HORRIBLE
FANATIC...



AND THE ONE
WHO POSSESSED
THE SWORD
THEMSELVES
CHANGES INTO A
DEVIL..

AN APPREHENSION
LURKS WITHIN
THE SWORD,
WHICH HAS
ABSORBED MUCH
BLOOD



IT'S A LIE, A
"LIE", THAT
WAS A
PABLE FOR
ALL OF YOU.

GRRRRR, WHAT ARE
YOU ALL
SCARED
OF-----!!

THERE'S NO
WAY THAT A
DEVILISH
POWER WOULD
EXIST IN THIS
WORLD-----!!



I...I HAD
NO...SOME
GILL COME
TO ME
.....!!



HA, IT'S
UNDER-
STANDABLE
TO NOT
BELIEVE IT.





BUT THE
BENWITCHED
BLADE SHIRANUI
IS NOW IN MY
HANDS!!



HAAT?

SO...
BRODER...
L...LOOK...
THAT'S
...!!

THAT'S
THAT'S

WEL... WHAT IS
THAT THING
LIKE BLUE-
WHITE FLAMES
THAT ARE BEING
RELEASED FROM
THAT SWORD
BLADE...?



WHEN I
BECOME ONE
WITH SHIRANUI,
THERE ARE NO
MATCHES FOR
ME!!

RIGHT HUNDRED
YEARS HAVE
PASSED AND
THIS
BENWITCHED
BLADE HAS
GAINED IT'S
TRUE MASTER



SHIRAZU IS
CRYING IN
WAITING TO
SUCK YOUR
BLOOD.

NOW,
YOU
SHOULD
BE
READY!!



TH... THOUGH IT
HASN'T CUT
ANYTHING,
BLOOD IS
DROPPING AND
FALLING FROM
THE BLADE
.....!!

BL...
BLOOD
—!!



THANKS
FOR THE
TREAT.





THAT SWORD
WON'T SUCK
MY BLOOD.

THAT'S
BECAUSE MY
BLOOD IS TOO
HOT AND IT
WILL BECOME
BURNED!!

YOUR GRAND
DEVILISH-
NESS!!

SHOW HIM,
SHIRANUI!!

NOW THAT WAS A PRETTY TALE. THE SAGA OF THE SHIRANUI SOMEHOW SEEMED SOMEWHAT LIKE AN ENTRY FROM JINREI PUBLISHING, BUT IT GOT ACROSS THE POINT OF HOW DEADLY AND DESTRUCTIVE THE SHORP IS TO WHOMEVER HELDS IT. THEN AGAIN... SOMEHOW I LIKED THAT MOMO NOT ONLY LISTENED TO YUKINOBU'S TALE BUT LIKEWISE PARTOOK OF SOME OF THE TEA OFFERED BY HIM.

IT'S SORT OF A PART OF MOMO WE NEVER GET TO SEE ANYMORE: THE EMPHATIC CHARACTER WHO SEEMS TO SHOW FORMALITY AND INTEREST IN AN ENEMY INSTEAD OF JUST BEING A BADASS ON THE BATTLEFIELD LIKE WE'VE SEEN FOR SOME TIME NOW ONLY. THAT SCENE WITH MOMO DRINKING TEA JUST TOOK ME BACK TO THE EARLY PART OF THE SERIES FROM HOW IT WAS DONE AND I LIKED THAT FLASH OF WHAT THE SERIES USED TO BE THERE.

LIKEWISE, I REALLY LIKE THE WHOLE "EVIL CLASSIC JAPAN" FEEL OF EISEN CASTLE AND THE WHOLE SHADORY MANIPULATION THEY HOLD. BUT I JUST HAVE THIS UNEASINESS THAT SOMEHOW IT'S ALL GOING TO GO WRONG SOMEWHERE OR ANOTHER. I JUST DON'T KNOW IF...OR WHEN.







刃血の

呪い!! の巻

CHP. 30: CURSE OF THE BLOODY SWORD!!



GAHHHA!
YOU WILL
SAVING
THAT FANG
AND BEING
FOUGHT-
BRED OF
IT!!

GO...
GOROUSHI
—!!



B...EVEN
THOUGH IT
HASN'T CUT
ANYTHING YET,
BLOOD IS
COMING OUT
FROM THE
BLADE.

I...
DON'T
BELIEVE
THIS...
—



THERE'S NO WAY THAT
THERE CAN BE A
BENCHED SWORD
POSSESSED BY THE
SOULS OF PEOPLE IN
NOWHERE WHERE
HUMANS HAVE EVEN
FLOUN TO SPACE IN A
SPACE SHUTTLE!!

GAHHHA,
THAT GUY IS
A MAJOR
FRAUD!!

THAT THING
IS A
FAKE!!
THERE'S
SOME
TRICK TO
IT!!



YEAH—!!



WELL, IN THAT
CASE, HOW
ABOUT IF YOU
COME CLOSER
AND YOU
CHECK IT?





WATCH
OUT,
GOBARSKI
....!!

NUOT!!



NUOT

WITH THAT,
I AM SAT-
ISFED.



!!



Y
YOUT!



LIGAT!



TH... THAT
GUY'S
DIRTY---!!

DAMN IT, HE
SUDDENLY
SLASHED AT
HIM---!!



DON'T
WORRY,
IT'S
MERELY A
SCRATCH!!

ARE YOU
ALRIGHT,
GORGAS
KID---!!



HUH??

YOUR LIFE
HAS FIVE
MINUTES
LEFT.....

WHY---??
WHAT'S
THAT---!!

YOU WILL DIE
IN WRATH
BY THE
GHOSTS OF
REVENGE IN
SHIRAZ!!



THIS MUST
BE ATONED
WITH DEATH.

YOUR CRIME IS
GUILTY FOR
CALLING ME A
FOUL AND
INSULTING THEN
SHIRAZ!!







GO...
GOBAR
SKI-!!

ST...
STOP,
WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH
YOU!!



GO...
GOBARSKI
IS ATTACK-
ING MONO
WITH AN
AWFUL
LOOK----

MONO,
WHY...
WHAT IS
HAPPEN-
ING----





WHAT
DID YOU
DO??





IF YOU BARE ONE
SCRATCH, YOU WILL
SEARCH FOR BLOOD
AND RUN AWAY.
WITHOUT DISTINGUISH-
ING EVEN ENEMY OR
ALLY AND, ULTIMATELY,
HAVE YOUR BREATH DIE
OUT.

FUJI, THAT IS
ONE OF THE
DEVILISH
POWERS POS-
SESSED IN
SHIRANUI

.....!!

WH...
WHAT'S
THAT?



THERE ISN'T AT
ALL A WAY TO
SAVE HIM.....IT
IS NO, HE WILL
DIE

FUJI, I SUGGEST
YOU STOP THAT.
WE'LL JUST RUN
WILD AGAIN IF
HE CONCLUDES.



O...OPEN
YOUR
EYES,
GOBARSKI
---!!

NO...HOLD
ON,
GOBARSKI
---!!





I DIDN'T
KNOW YOU
WOULD USE
THAT TRICK
BUT...

UN...
UNFOR-
GIVABLE
IT



DO...
DOUBT...
WILL
DE...!!

THAT
IM...
IMPOSS-
IBLE!!



NI
OO
--
!!





GU...
YOU'RE STILL
SOFT!!



YOU
CAN'T
DEFEAT
ME
LIKE
THAT!!



MO...
MOMO
---!!

GU!!



ALL YOU
BARELY
HOLD IT.

BUT ULTIMATELY
YOU TOO WILL
FOLLOW THE
SAME PATH AS
THE ONE WHO
TOOK IT, THAT
GOES WITHOUT
SAYING.



HE WILL
SOON
DIE!!

YOU
WILL
SEE!!







TAKE
THIS!
KAIHAT-
SUSHIN!!

!!

WHY!!

OH "KAIHATSUSHIN" = "NOTHING-PLUS NEEDLES"

NO...
MOMO'S
GETTING
KILLED
---!!

GUGU
!!

I'VE
GOT
YOU
---!!



NU!!

GOFU !!



**GO...
GOBAR
SKI
---!!**

HUH !!



HEH...IT'S SAD TO MISS GOMARSHI SO LIKE THAT AFTER SUCH A SHORT TIME ON OTOMOUKUKU'S SIDE...HECK EVEN HE ADMITTED IT HADN'T BEEN LONG BUT HE'S HAD FUN WITH IT. THEN AGAIN, I FIND IT SAD BUT STRANGE THAT HE WOULD JUST SUDDENLY CHALLENGE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE SWORD...LEADING TO HIS DEATH LIKE THAT.

SURE THERE IS A REASON AS WE'LL FIND OUT NEXT TIME, BUT IT DID FEEL RANDOM THAT YUKINOJOJI WOULD TRY TO KILL HIM LIKE THAT USING THE SWORD WHILE IN THE MIDDLE OF HIS FIGHT WITH ROMO. THAT FELT A LOT LIKE THE WHOLE SCENARIO OF WAKI TAIRENS FIGHT WITH KENNOU. THEY WANTED TO DO MORE, BUT SOMEHOW THEY HAD TO CUT TO THE CHASE AND MAKE IT A SHORTER FIGHT DUE TO TIME PRESSING SHORT.

BUT...EVEN THOUGH SOME OF WHAT HE'S DONE RECENTLY HAS BEEN WEIRD, I AM GOING TO MISS GOMARSHI I ADMIT... AT LEAST FOR THE AWESOME FIGHT HE HAD WITH J. CAN'T SAYHE THE ONE EARLIER IN THIS ARC





TH...THINKING
OF MY DREAM IN
FIGHTING
TOGETHER WITH
ALL OF YOU

IT...IT
WAS A
SHORT
TIME, BUT
IT'S BEEN
FUN...

AS ONE OF
OTONO-
JURII...IT



BE...BECAUSE I
CAN'T HAVE
THAT YOU GET
INVOLVED WITH
MY BUSINESS

FULL
W...WITH THIS,
YOU CAN FIGHT
WITHOUT
HAVING TO
WORRY ABOUT
BE ASSAULTED
--!!



GO
BAR
SKI

!!



DE...
FEAT...

CE...OUR
TAMELY
DEFEAT
--!!





GO...GO
BANSKI
----!!



最期の言葉!! の巻



THAT OCCASIONAL
WAS
THAT EVER-
GETTING UP UP
TO EARLIER
WAS...!!

WH...
WHAT
HAS THIS
COME
TO...



最期の言葉!!

の巻へ



CHP. 302: THE LAST WORD!!



SOMETHING
IS WRITTEN
ON THE
GROUND.



HE STRAINED
THE LAST OF
HIS POWER
AND LEFT THIS
NOTE BEHIND
ON THE VERGE
OF HIS DEATH.





THERE'S NO
NEED TO BE
SADDENED
BY THE
DEATH OF
THAT
FOOLISH
MAN.

BOTH SHIRAZU
AND MYSELF
ARE TIRED OF
WAITING.

FUFFLE ARE
YOU PLANNING
ON KEEPING
ME WAITING
FOREVER IN
THE MIDDLE OF
A MATCH
TUESDAY?

THAT MAN DIED
FOR HIS
MISTAKE AS
CONSEQUENCE
OF HIS FOOL-
ISHNESS



FOR
CERTAIN
.....!!

HE WILL
CERTAINLY
BE
DEFEATED
BY ME!!



EVEN IF
YOU'RE AN
ENEMY,
THOSE ARE
WORDS SAID
ABOUT A
MAN WHO
HAS DIED

WH...
WHAT'S
THAT
---!!



...
EVERYONE,
STEP BACK



BUT EVEN
SO, YOU
CAN'T WIN
AGAINST
ME.

HA
THAT'S
GONE
THE
SPIRIT.

I'LL SHOW
YOU THE
OTHER DEVIL-
HOODNESS OF
SHIRANUI!!

YOU'VE LOST
YOUR UNDERST
AND NOW ARE
HIDING JUST
YOUR ANGER
AND SADNESS
IN YOUR GLADE.





E...EVEN
THOUGH HIS
HAND LET GO
OF IT, THAT
SWORD IS
FLOATING IN
MID-AIR---!!

WH...
WHAT---!!
IT'S...
FLOATING
---!!





GO,
SABRINET!
NOW HAVE HIM
TASTE YOUR
TRUE
TERROR!!

LOOT!

OH...
IMPOSSIBLE,
THIS
IS!!





WOW, I
DON'T
BELIEVE
THIS
—!!

IT'S...AS IF THE
SWORD POS-
SESSES A WILL
LIKE IT'S A
LIVING THING AND
COMING TO
ATTACK WITH
TREMENDOUS
FORCE—!!



UGHH!!



TH...THAT
SWORD REALLY
IS A DEVILISH
SWORD POS-
SESSED BY A
VENGEFUL
GHOST.....!!



TH...THERE'S
NO INDICATION
IT'S BEING
MANIPULATED
BY STRINGS!!



SOBIRUKI
REALIZED THAT
SOMETHING!!

SOME-
THING!!



THAT'S
WRONG

THERE
SHOULD BE
SOMETHING



TELL ME,
SOMEBODY,
WHAT EXACTLY
YOU WERE
TRYING TO
DO...

THAT'S WHY
HE LEFT A
MESSAGE ON
THE GROUND!



WELL... WHY IS
THIS FRAGMENT
FLOATING IN
MID-AIR...??

TH... THIS IS A
FRAGMENT OF
SHIRAZI THAT
CHIPPED OFF
THE BLADE
WITH THE
BLOW NOW







IT'S SINK-
OR-SWIM!!

IN...IN
SPITE OF
HAVING
NOWHERE TO
RUN LIKE
THAT-----!!

AH, NO...HOMO
IS CLIMBING THE
SAGURA TREE
AND CAUSED BY
SARRANS-----!!





WH...WHAT...?!
SHIRANEI HAS
SUDDENLY
STALLED AND
IT'S BALANCE
HAS CRUMPLED
...!!



IT...IT
IS!!



NUN!!



NUN!!



HA!!

I'VE SEEN
THROUGH
YOUR
SECRET,
SHIRANUI!!

!!



HA
---!!



SAY...SHORANU
HAS BEEN
SEALD
BENEATH THE
SAGURA
TREE---!!

HE...
HE DID
IT---!!





NEXT IS
YOUR
TURN





INDEED THE SHIRANUI CARRIED
MAGNETISM AND
EVERYTHING IN
THIS GARDEN
WAS A POWERFUL
MAGNETIC FIELD.

YOU UNDERSTOOD THAT
AND LURED SHIRANUI BY
CLIMBING THAT SAKURA
TREE!! AND THERE,
AT A POINT WHERE
MAGNETISM NOT REACH,
IT WAS CAUGHT WHEN
ITS BALANCE WAS
DESTROYED.



YOU'VE
DONE WELL
IN READING
THE
SECRET OF
SHIRANUI.

PO, SPLAINED
TOLDUCCI.



HE CAME TO
INVERSE THE STYLE
OF THE H DUE TO
HIS PAIN ON THE
VERGE OF DEATH,
BUT THAT WERE
THE H AND N WHICH
HAD THE READING
OF A MAGNETISM.

BEHOLD IT WAS
THOSE
LETTERS
JOKERISH
LEFT
BEHIND.....



THAT IS
SURELY
CHANG KONG-
ZANTOU
WHICH IS SAID
TO BE A
CHINESE
KARAOKE...!!

IS...
RIGHT, I'VE
HEARD
ABOUT
THIS...!!



GO...GO THEN,
WHAT EXACTLY
DOES THIS
MEAN.....!!

WH...
WHAT---!!
A MAGNET
---!!

TM: "CHANG KONG-ZANTOU" = "FEROUS-MAGNET
PEACEFUL-MURDERING SHOROT"

IN BRIEF: THE MAGNETISM FROM WITHIN THE GROUND AND THE MAGNETISM OF THE SWORD ARE OF THE SAME POLE AND IT WILL FLOAT IN THE AIR BY THIS. AND THE USER OF THE TECHNIQUE MANIPULATES BOTH SOIL WITH A SUPER-POWERFUL PAIR OF HANDS-POLE MAGNETS THAT THEY CARRY AROUND IN THEIR BUSTLE, INTERFERING TO THE FLOATING SWORD MOVEMENT AS THEY PLEASE AND ATTACKING THEM IN OPPOSITE DIRECTION. THE MAGNET'S NECESSARY FOR THIS TECHNIQUE IS CRUCIAL IN THAT IT IS ONLY PRODUCED IN A PORTION OF A STREAM IN CHINA AND THE MOVIE DRIVEN AND THAT IT DOES WITHOUT SAYING THAT IT WON'T REACT TO OTHER METALS. "FROM MAGNET POWER - THIS IS HOW THEY'LL CHANGE THE 21ST CENTURY!" *Shogun* Publisher

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EXACTLY EXPLANATED! , AS IT IS KNOWN, MAGNETS HAVE A S-AND N-POLAR AND A STRONG DRIVEN WORKS BETWEEN DIFFERENT POLES, BUT A STRONG REPELLANT POWERED WORKS BETWEEN THE SAME POLES. PUTTING THIS THEORY TO PRACTICAL USE IS EXACTLY EXPLANATED, SAID TO BE AN UNUSUALLY SECRET GUY OF CHINESE KINSHIP. THE IMPORTANT POINT OF THIS TECHNIQUE IS TO SURF A NUMEROUS AMOUNT OF POWERFUL MAGNETS WHICH CREATE A MAGNETIC FIELD IN THE GROUND IN A PLACE WHICH WILL BECOME A BATTLEGROUND IN ADVANCE AND USING A SWORD FLAME BY MOVING IN AN OPPOSED POWER THAT CARRIES MAGNETISM.

N →

← S



IN WHILE "BRACHIN" IS OBVIOUSLY SOMETHING I COULDN'T WRITE FROM A MANGA "TO AN "ARIDE" IS AN OBVIOUS COMPOUND TYPICALLY OF THE CARBON-NITROGEN BOND THAT ARE TYPICALLY BOUND USED FOR TOXIC MATERIALS AS WELL AS FOR MAKING CERTAIN NOTABLE GROUPS INCLUDING PERICULIN OR LEO



DON'T THINK
YOU CAN WIN
BY MAKING A
SCRATCH OF
THAT DEGREE.

BUT THE
TRUE
MATCH IS
FROM
HERE.



ALL OF IT
WAS A FABLE
FOR PRE-
SENTING A
FEELING OF
PSYCHOLOG-
ICAL OPPRES-
SION FOR
YOU.

I'LL AFTER
ALL, A THING
CALLED A
REINFORCED
SWORD
DOESN'T
EXIST.



WHAT'S
THAT?



THIS MATCH
IS ALREADY
OVER.

YOU'VE
LOST,
YURINOBU.



IT...CAN'T
BE...



YOU SHOULD
LOOK CLOSELY
AT THE SWORD
IN MY HAND.

WHEN I JUMPED
DOWN FROM THE
SAKURA TREE, I
CARRIED WITH THE
SWORD. IN SHORT,
THE SWORD
PLANTED IN THE
GROUND NOW IS MY
SWORD.



TH...
THAT'S
SHIRANUI
---!!



I'VE FUL-
FILLED MY
PROMISE,
GOMARON.

UGY
AAA
--
!!



YOU WILL DIE
TASTING THE
SIMILAR PAIN
AS
GOMARON!!

THIS
DEATH
WILL BE
APPRO-
PRIATE TO
YOU.



TH... THAT
STUPID
---!!

HA...
HAAT.

WELL, ONCE AGAIN WE HAVE LEARNED A VALUABLE LESSON: NEVER QUESTION THE CONVO-
LUTED LOGIC OF OTOKOJUKU, ESPECIALLY WHEN INVOLVING A MANGA PUBLISHING ENTITY
(EVEN THOUGH THIS ACTUALLY IS THE LAST ONE OF THE SERIES...SAD TO SEE IT COME BUT
UNFORTUNATELY...WELL, WON'T SPOIL IT BUT THE REST OF THE SERIES REALLY DOESN'T HAVE
ANY MEANS TO USE THEM: THERE IS A FACTOR THAT WILL FURTHER EXPLAIN IT NEXT CHAPTER,
BUT THE FACT THAT SOMETHING FROM CHINA ALSO CAME FROM RUSSIA/SOVIET UNION (WELL,
BORISBE IS RUSSIAN AND RUSSIA AND CHINA DO SHARE A MASSIVE BORDER...THOUGH I
HAVEN'T DONE ENOUGH RESEARCH TO FIND OUT IF THIS CHAPTER WAS DONE BEFORE OR
AFTER THE FINAL COLLAPSE OF THE SOVIET UNION CONSIDERING THAT IT HAPPENED IN '91 WHEN
THIS CHAPTER CAME OUT) AND HOW IT CONNECTS TO THE WHOLE MAGNET STORY WAS A MCH
TOUGH TO SHOW WHY BORISBE WAS SO EASILY EFFECTED...AND WHY HE WAS THE ULTIMATE
DOWNFALL...OF THE SHIRAKI FRAUD.

IT'S TUGH TO FIGURE OUT HOW THE WHOLE SOMEONE WOULD HAVE THE TIME TO MAKE ALL
THAT SET-UP FOR ONE BILLY TECHNIQUE...BUT IT'S OTOKOJUKU SO JUST GO WITH IT
SOMEHOW IT STILL DOESN'T QUITE EXPLAIN SOME THINGS LIKE THE WHOLE "BLOOD ON THE
SWORD" BIT (WHICH PROBABLY IS JUST HERE SHOWMANSHIP BY YUKINOJOU THINKING ABOUT
IT) BUT AT LEAST THE WHOLE BATTLE IS OVER, AND WE CAN MOVE ON TO...WELL, LET ME
ADMIT THIS: WE'RE ENTERING A STRANGE SECTION OF THE SEVEN TURNS ARC. LET'S JUST SAY
THIS: BE PREPARED FOR ANYTHING THE NEXT FEW CHAPTERS...AND I DO MEAN IT.







WELL, SHIBU-SAMA, ONE OF
SUZEN CASTLE'S
FOUR BATTLE-
HEADS, HAS
PREPARED
HIMSELF AND IS
WAITING THEM.



WHO WILL
FIGHT THEM
NEXT?



HE IS THE MAN
WHO HAS
MASTERS THE
ESSENTIALS OF
NINJA ARTS, WHICH
SHOULD BE THE
SHADOW-STREAM
OF JAPAN'S
MARTIAL ARTS.

FL SHIBU
OF A
THOUSAND
FACES, AS
PEOPLE CALL
HIM.



FUJI, IT WILL
BE FUN IN
WATCHING
WHATEVER
FIGHT THIS IS.



EVEN I
HAVEN'T.



AS THAT SECOND
NAME DENOTES,
THERE HAVEN'T
EVER BEEN A
PERSON WHO
HAS SEEN THE
TRUE FACE OF
SHIBU.



せんら 千の顔を
持つ刺客!! の巻

CHP. 303: THE ASSASSIN OF A
"THOUSAND FACES!"







BE CAREFUL.
WE DON'T
KNOW WHAT
TRICKS IT HAS.

IT'S...
EXTREMELY
DAM FINISH



IS THIS
WOODEN
DOOR THE
ENTRANCE?



HUNTY?
WHERE ARE
YOU LOOKING
AND WHOM
ARE YOU
COMPLAINING
TO,
TOSABU?

TH...THAT
ALRYS,
TOSABU?
BE CAREFUL
IN STEPPING
ON A
PERSON'S
FOOT!



OUCH!





WH...WHAT
EXACTLY
A...ARE
YOU??



WH...WHAT
EXACTLY
ARE YOU
.....??



TH...THAT
STAND....!!



TH...THEY'RE
TWO PLAS IN
A POD....!!
EVEN IN
VOICES....!!

I...DON'T
BELIEVE
THIS....!!



TH...THAT'S MY
LINE!! I'LL
REVEAL THIS
GUY'S TRUE
IDENTITY....!!

TH...THIS
IS RIDICU-
LOUS, YOU
GUY....!!



WH... WHAT
ARE ALL OF
YOU
DOING---!!
HURRY AND
TAKE THE
FARE---!!

WH... WHAT
ARE YOU
SAYING? THE
FARE IS
YOUR---!!



LIGHT!



TELL ME!!
THE THREE
INSTRUCTIONS
OF OTOHO-
JUMU!!

HHH??



IF YOU'RE
A STUDENT
OF OTOHO-
JUMU, YOU
SHOULD
KNOW
THIS.



NO... MOMO,
PLEASE DO
SOMETHING
ABOUT
THIS!!



"STUDENTS SHOULD BE
DEVOTED TO THEIR
ALLEGIANCE!!"
"STUDENTS SHOULD
VALUE BRAVERY!!"
"STUDENTS SHOULD
ALIKE PRINCIPAL TO
DO HONESTY!!"

HAHAHA---!!
I KNOW
THEM---!!



I...I DON'T
KNOW
THOSE
THINGS
---!!

THE...
THREE
INSTRUCTIONS OF
OFORO-
JEECE---!!?



NOW QUICKLY
GIVE THIS FAKE
GUY IN TWO
MINUTE---!!

WAAAAH,
THAT DECIDE
!!---!!



THE TRUE
TORAMARU
DOESN'T
REMEMBER
THOSE
THINGS!!

THAT'S-
WHY IT'S
YOU!!



WH...WHY?!
PL...DON'T I
ANSWER
THEM COR-
RECTLY
---!!



THE FAKE
IS YOU

PL
WAAAAH





WHAT
ARE
YOU
---!!

OTTO



OVERDOING
IT SOMEHOW
MAKES ME
GOT CAUGHT.

PUFFPUFF,
I'VE BEEN
FOUND
OUT.

PEOPLE CALLED
ME THE MAN OF
A THOUSAND
FACES!!

MY NAME IS
SHIRKAL, ONE OF
BAGEN CASTLE'S
FOUR BATTLE-
HERMITS!!

第 2 回

N...NOW HE'S
BECOME
MOMO'S
FACE---!!

WH...
WHAT---!!
THAT'S...
MOMO---!!



DON'T FORGET
THAT I HAVE THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATED
EVERYTHING ABOUT ALL OF YOU,
FROM YOUR PERSONAL HISTORIES
TO YOUR PERSONALITIES.

PUPPIL,
YOU SHOULD
HAVE FEEL



AND YOU
WILL BE
LEAVING
NOT ONE
BEHIND.

ALL OF YOU
WILL BE IN
STRANGE
FIGHTS EVEN
OF THIS
WORLD IN
THIS MANSION
FROM HERE.



YOU PUT THIS
ON OUR
SHOULDERS
IN THIS
PLACE—!!

WH... WHAT
IS THAT
GUY SAYING
—!!



WOLF



WH...
WHAT
---!!
A TRAP
---!!

4000
---!!



WELL, I'VE
ALREADY
DECIDED ON
MY FIRST
GAME.









I HAVE
NOTHING TO
PROVE THAT
YOU ARE THE
REAL DATE.

PL
THAT'S
THE SAME
FOR ME.



THERE'S
NOTHING TO
PROVE THAT
YOU ARE THE
REAL HEN.

AS WE SAW
EARLIER,
WITH HIS
TRANSFORMA-
TION
TECHNIQUE,



BECAUSE
EVEN IF YOU
RESEMBLE
HER FACE,
YOU CAN'T
MIMIC THE
TECHNIQUES.

RIGHT. IN
THAT CASE,
WE WILL
KNOW
PROOF WITH
OUR TECH-
NIQUES.



WITH THIS, IT
WILL BE
PLEASING IF I
CAN CLEAR
THE DOUBT...

PL
UNDER-
STOOD.



IF YOU HAVE THE
SKILL THAT CAN GO
THROUGH THE EYE
OF A NEEDLE, THEN
IT WOULD BE UNBE-
LIEVABLE THAT YOU
WILL MISS BY ONE
CHANCE.

FIRST YOU
WILL STRIKE
THE END
DECORATION
ON MY SPEAR
WITH YOUR
KARLISH
GENSON.



YOU KNOW, THE WHOLE IDEA OF A MYSTERY MAN WHO HAS NO KNOWN IDENTITY BLENDING IN WITH THE GOKUUGAKI FIGHTERS AND KNOWING EVERYTHING ABOUT THEM ALLOWING FOR THEM TO HAVE A HARD TIME WITH HIM IS AN INTERESTING CONCEPT THINKING IT OVER, SURE IT IS TRICKY AND THERE ARE STILL WAYS TO TAKE HIM DOWN (LIKE TRICKING HIM INTO THINKING THAT TORIIMARU WAS SMART...YEAH THAT WORKED WELL) BUT SOMEHOW IT SHOULD HAVE LEAD TO A MORE INTERESTING SCENARIO. I SAY THAT BECAUSE OF... WELL, WHAT'S COMING, BUT AT THE SAME TIME I DO WONDER IF IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN SHIBUKI THAT WAS THIS GUY AND NOT MERELY SOMEONE ELSE WITH HIM INTRODUCED AS A MASTER NINJA.

HONESTLY I WOULD HAVE MADE SHIBUKI A NINJA AND SOMEONE ELSE THE "MULTI-FACE MASTER" BECAUSE I DID LIKE HIS BREFD INTRODUCTION LAST TIME WITH THE KILLER SHALLOW. MEANYWHILE, SOMEHOW THE WHOLE EXPLANATION REGARDING WHY BOBIRSKI WAS SACRIFICED DOES MAKE SENSE NOW (AND BTW I DID LOOK IT UP AND THE CHAPTER WAS RELEASED AROUND A TIME WHEN IT WAS STILL THE SOVIET UNION IN APRIL/MAY. IT DENT FALL APART UNTIL AUGUST OF THAT YEAR), BUT IT STILL FEELS A SHAME THAT SOMEONE THAT COOL WOULD BE SACRIFICED JUST LIKE THAT. THERE IS A LOT MORE TO SAY ABOUT THIS CHAPTER...BUT WE MAY HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL NEXT TIME...THEN AGAIN...



RIGHT, AT
THAT
MOMENT!!

HE SUBSTI-
TUTED THEM AT
THAT MOMENT!!



TH...THOSE
AREN'T MY
SEASONS!

WR...
WRONG.



WA...
WAIT--!!
DA...
DATE---!!



JUST GIVE
UP
ALREADY!!

WITH THAT,
I'VE
REVEALED
YOUR TRUE
IDENTITY.



星長帰還!!の巻

THE MAN
CALLED
ROBARBAT HAS
BEEN VICTIM-
IZED AND
KILLED BY
THEM.

YOU
SHOULD
KNOW OF
THE
TERROR OF
THOSE MEN!

THERE IS NO
REASON
THEY CAN
NOW
FIGHTING
THOSE MEN!

NOW YOUR DEAR
STUDENTS ARE
FIGHTING AS
THE OPPONENTS
OF THE
WARRIORS OF
SHUEN CASTLE!!

WAAAAAAH,
HAVE YOU
REALIZED,
BRAT!!!!!!



WAAAAAAH!!
WAAAAAAH!!

WAAAAAAH,
THIS
FEELS
GREAT,
THIS
FEELS
GREAT!!

BUT YOU CAN
MEREELY HOLD
YOUR
FINGERS AND
ONLY WATCH
IN THE VOID
OF SPACE!!

NOW THE
ANNIHILA-
TION OF COO-
ROUQU IS A
MATTER OF
TIME!!



**CHP. 304: PRINCIPAL,
RETURN!!**



塾長、 帰還!!の巻

第1位
剣桃太郎
3116票

第5回男塾キャラクター人気投票発表!! 応募総数12315通!!

第2位 巨無霸 1748票	第3位 黒塚龍次 1648票	第4位 王八 1608票	第5位 梅蘭 1578票	第6位 宇崎大八 1518票
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第7位 赤松大次郎 1478票	第8位 王将軍 1438票	第9位 黒塚龍次 1408票	第10位 王将軍 1378票	第11位 黒塚龍次 1348票
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THE BEST: 11TH. GENDOU: 871 VOTES; 10TH. TOSHIKAZU GOUL: 140 VOTES; 9TH. AKASHI GOUL: 137 VOTES; 11TH. SOULJIA HIRAHACH: 128 VOTES





THE SHUTTLE
WILL SOON BE
BREAKING INTO
THE ATMO-
SPHERE.

WE'RE
ANOTHER 1000
KM TO EARTH.
WE HAVE 15
MINUTES LEFT
OF TIME.

EVERYONE TO
THE FIRST
LANDING
SYSTEM!



YEAH, BUT
WE'RE FINALLY
RETURNING TO
EARTH.

THIS WAS A
LONG MISSION,
CAPTAIN.



IT SEEMS
TO BE A
MAN-MADE
SATELLITE.

I'VE DISCOV-
ERED AN
UNIDENTIFIED
OBJECT 40
DEGREES
STARBOARD.



WHAT'S
WRONG
IT?

CA...
CAPTAIN,
TH... THAT'S
IT.



THERE'S NO
WAY A GASP
FROM OUR
COUNTRY OR
THE SOVIETS IN
THIS AREA!

WHAT
---IT
THAT'S
...IMPO-
SSIBLE.



ZOOM IN
MORE WITH
THE
CAMERA!!



OMG,
L...LOOK---!!
SO...SOME
FACE IS
EMERGING
FROM THE
WINDOW---!!



THAT'S NOT AN
BARTHOLING.
TH... THAT'S
SURELY AN
UNKNOWN
CREATURE
FROM SPACE
.....!!

THAT
BECAUSE
EXPRES-
SION.....



IT'S
TURNING
TO
US AND
YELLING!!

I...DON'T
BELIEVE IT:
THAT'S...A
LIVING THING
.....!!



DIDN'T THEY
UNDERSTAND
I WAS SAYING
I HAVE TO BE
FREED FROM
HERE-----!!

HEY---!!
THOSE
NASA
IDOTS!!



WE'LL...GO
JUST A BIT
CLOSER AND
LOOK AT ITS
STATE!!

IT...REEMS
LIKE QUITE
AN ATRO-
CIOUS
CREATURE!!
BE ON
LOOKOUT!!



UR
YA

!!



ITS SINK-OR-
SWIM, IF
THAT'S THEIR
DISTANCE,
THEN IT'S
GONE TO THE
SCREWDRIVE!!

WELL, I
HAVE NO
CHOICE!!







I...I DON'T
BELIEVE IT: IT'S
SWIMMING
COMPLETELY
NAKED IN THIS
Abyssal VOID
OF SPACE----!!

WOW, IT'S
COMING
TOWARDS
THIS
WAY----!!



BE...GENTLEMAN,
WE WILL HAVE
OUR NAMES LEFT
IN THE HISTORY
OF EARTH...AND
THE UNIVERSE!!

I...I'M
CERTAIN
THAT IS AN
ALIAS!!



WH...
WHAT
----!!

ET...IT'S
WRENCH-
ING OPEN
THE
HATCH
----!!



IT'S
ARRIVED
ON OUR
CRAFT----!!

CA...
CAPTAIN,
THIS ISN'T
THE SITU-
ATION TO SAY
THAT!!



IT'S...
COMING
IN---!!

IT'S...
DESTROYED
THE HATCH
---!!



**DOR
YAA**

!!



OUR
JOB IS
LE...LEAK
ING OUT!!





WELL, IF I
DON'T CLOSE
THIS
QUICKLY,
THE AIR
WILL LEAK
OUT.

**I AM THE
PRINCIPAL
OF OTOKO-
JUKU,
EDAJIMA
HEIHACHI!!**



ST... IT
TALKS...

THE ALIEN
SPOKE
EARTH
LANGUAGE



ARE YOU
THE
CAPTAIN
OF THIS
SHUTTLE?



I AM THE
EARTHLINE
PRINCIPAL OF
O'DONOGHUE
HIGH SCHOOL.
EDUARD
HEINACH!!

YOU FOOL!!
I'M NOT AN
ALIEN!!



WE HAVE TO
GO BACK TO
EARTH.

I'LL TELL
YOU THE
DETAILS
LATER.



TH...THIS
SHUTTLE IS COM-
PLETELY CON-
TROLLED FROM
COMPUTER FOR A
CONSTANT CREW.

IT...IT'S
IMPOSSIBLE.

IF WE INCREASE
BY ONE, OUR
FUEL AND AIR
WILL BECOME
INSUFFICIENT AND
IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO RETURN
TO EARTH.



Y...YOU
CAN'T RIDE
ON THIS.

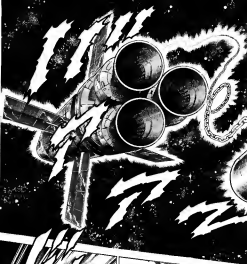
N... NO.



DO YOU
PLAN ON
DEFUSING
BOMB-
BOMB!!

WELL...IT
WASN'T
THAT??





Dr. Richter's
children was
placed in our
room from a
mysterious pos-
sibility of
space and were
taken to our
room.

THAT... THIS
IS A
NIGHT-
MARE... IT



AL-RIGHT,
ADVANCE
ON DEPAR-
TURE----!!



E...I DON'T
KNOW FROM
HERE.

CA...CAPTAIN,
IS HE STILL
ALIVE?



BUT WHAT IS
THIS? THAT GUY
WAS A THERMOCOUPLE IN
REFERENCE TO EARTH THAT'S
JUST TREMEN-
DOUS



THE TEMPERA-
TURE AT THAT
MOMENT IS
OVER 500
DEGREES.

BUT WE'LL
BE ENTERING
THE ATMO-
SPHERE IN
ANOTHER
MINUTE.

E...EVEN IF
HE'S WEARING A
HEAT-RESISTANT
PROTECTIVE
OUTFIT THAT HAS
MAINTAINED THE
ESSENCE OF
SCIENCE, IT WON'T
BE UNPLEASANT
SOVERYM



I CAN'T LET
YOUR YOUNG
LIVES SCATTER
ANY FURTHER
BECAUSE OF
ME!!

PUPU, WAIT
FOR ME, ALL
OF YOU!!

IF YOU CLEAR
YOUR MIND OF
ALL MUNDANE
THOUGHTS,
THEN EVEN
FIRE WILL
FEEL COOL
---!!







**HAHAHA,
I'M MUCH
OBLIGED,
GENTLEMEN
YANKEES!!**



**THAT
WAS AN
AN ALIEN
AFTER
ALL...!!**



**I AM THE
PRINCIPAL
OF OTOBO-
JIMA,
BOULDER
HIDEOUT!!**

**BORTAA---!!
RUN OFF
AMONG FOR
JAPAN---!!**

SO...UM...DOES ANYONE REALLY NEED AN EXPLANATION FOR WHAT JUST HAPPENED? IN ONE CHAPTER, MIYASHITA WAS ESSENTIALLY UNDERMINED AND DESTROYED THE ENTIRE CONCEPT OF THE SEVEN TURNS AND THE PURPOSE FOR WHY IT WAS NEEDED...AND YET IT WAS PROBABLY THE FUNNIEST, GREATEST AND MOST "OTAKOJIRU"-LIKE CHAPTER IN A LONG, LONG TIME AND ALL HE DID WAS FORCE A BEWARE ENCOUNTER BETWEEN NASA AND EDJIMA. YEAH...THERE REALLY IS NOTHING OF LONG THAT CAN BE SAID ABOUT THIS CHAPTER BUT IT WAS PROBABLY THE MOST AWESOME, FUNNIEST AND INSANE THING I HAVE SEEN IN THIS SERIES IN A LONG, LONG, LONG TIME.

I MEAN THE WHOLE THING, FROM EDJIMA SPYING THE SPACE SHUTTLE TO HIM SEEING A KILLER WHALE AND THE WHOLE CONCEPT OF THE AMERICANS THINKING HE WAS SOME WEIRD ALIEN WHEN HE WAS JUST TRYING TO HITCH A RIDE BACK TO EARTH IN THE MOST UNBELIEVABLE BUT HILARIOUS WAY POSSIBLE MAKES ME RECALL THE EARLY DAYS OF THE SERIES WHEN THIS SORT OF HUMOR WAS STANDARD...AS OPPOSED TO "COOL FIGHTS WITH FUNNY ELEMENTS" IN THEM...MORE LIKE "FUNNY STUFF WITH SOME COOL MOMENTS HERE OR THERE". I DO SORT OF WONDER IF THIS IS EITHER A MEANS TO SHORTEN THE ARC A BIT OR MIYASHITA REBELLING AND DECIDING TO DO THINGS HIS WAY IF HE KNEW IT HAD COME TO THIS.

BUT...I THINK I RATHER HAVE EDJIMA THE "ALIEN" OVER...WELL, SOME OF THE OVER THE TOP AND STUPID FIGHTS THIS ARC HAS GIVEN. BUT IF YOU THINK THIS IS BECAUSE...WELL, WAIT UNTIL NEXT TIME.

IT'S TOO
SUDDEN AND I
DON'T HAVE ANY
ENTERTAINMENT
IN THE NEXT
CASTLE BUT

I WELCOME
YOU
TOUBOU-
SAMA.

CHP. 305: THE COLLAPSE OF BUGEN CASTLE!!

THAT WILL BE
MORE ENTERTAINING
THAN
ANYTHING.

PUFFPU: IT'S THOSE
GUYS. I WANT TO
SEE WITH MY EYES
AT ANY COSTS THE
APPEARANCE OF
THOSE OTOMODACHI
BOATS DYING A
BOY'S DEATH.



WHAT IS
THAT
SOUND??

PL WE
LEAVE YOU IN
YOUR INTEN-
TIONS OF
RIDING THE
THREE BOAT.

I HAVE
GREAT
ANTICIPATION
FOR ALL OF
YOU.



WH...
WHAT
---!!

武幻城崩壊!! の巻





WA...WAIT,
ST...STOP
DATE ---!!

I'M THE
REAL
HIEN
---!!



WITH THIS, HE'S
IN A ONE-SIDED
DEFENSIVE
BATTLE! HE CAN'T
WAGE AN ATTACK
ON ME!!

PUFFPU!
YOU'RE PER-
FECTLY
TRAPPED IN MY
ART!!

WITH THIS, I
CAN ALREADY
SEE THIS
MATCH!!



YOU'RE PRUIT-
TUNG!! IN THAT
CASE WHY DID
YOU MESS WITH
YOUR
SENSEI---!!



GLWA!!

DIE!!

HUH?

DA...
DATE
---!!





N--IT

YEAH,
WE'VE
SEARCHED
EVERY-
WHERE, BUT
WE CAN'T
FIND HIM.

WH...
WHERE HAS
HE
ACTUALLY
GONE TO?



WHAT IS
THAT
SOUND?

IT'S
EXTREMELY
NOISY
OUTSIDE.

IT... IT SEEMS
LIKE THE
ENTIRE
MANSON HAS
BECOME A
LABYRINTH.



WO!!



KA KA KA,
WE'RE HERE
TOO.

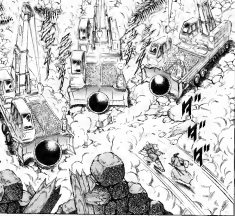
**I AM THE
PRINCIPAL
OF OTOKO-
JUKU,
EDAJIMA
HEIHACHI
!!**

全十第

**THE...
PRINCIPAL
IS... AT
EUGEN
CASTLE
...!!**

**IT'S...
THE PRINCIPAL
...!!**

HEIHACHI, DAMEJI, FUKU



H...NO WAY,
TH...THIS
THING IS...!!

H...HOW DID
HE GET
BACK FROM
THE OUTER
SPACE...?!



I'VE COME
TO TAKE
YOUR
HEAD,
TOLDOUT

FIFU,
I'VE
MADE A
DECISION !!



WH...WHY
ARE YOU
HERE...?!

E...EDM
JUNA
...?!





WITH THESE
MEN, THERE IS
NOTHING TO
FEAR ANYMORE!!

PLA, TE AT
PEACE,
TOSOU-SAMA!!

I...
LEAVE IT
TO YOU
...!!



TEAR THOSE
INSOLENTS
LIMB FROM
LIMB-----!!

TAKE
THEM
---!!



DIDN'T YOU
HEAR MY
ORDER-----!!

HOW...
WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH ALL
OF YOU
---!!





TH...THEY'RE
ALL OTOKO-
JUKU! IT'S
A GATHERING
OF ALL OF
OTOKOJUKU
---!!



WH...WHAT
WILL YOU
DO?
SOME-
THING---!!

HEHE,
Y...YOU
ALL---!!



HE'S...
BASS-
LING!!

HAVING COME
TO THIS, I WILL
BE YOUR
OPPONENT!!



NOW THERE
IS NO WAY
TO ESCAPE
FROM THIS
PLACE!!

CHOOSE TO
PREPARE
YOURSELF,
TOKUGU



I HAVE NO USE
FOR YOU,
SWORD-FIGHT
ACTORS!



HUHT!



HUHT!



GUGYA
!!





LET'S GO
BACK TO
OTOKO-
JUKU!!



BATTLE OF SEVEN
TUSKS ARC
.....END

SO...UH...WELL...THAT'S THE SEVEN TURNS ARC AND LET ME JUST SAY THIS FOR AN ARC THAT HAD BEEN A MAJOR DISAPPOINTMENT AND A MAJOR MESS IN TRYING TO FOLLOW UP ON THE DABURAI AND PREVIOUS GLORIOUS AND BRILLIANT MOMENTS IN THE SERIES, THIS ENDING...WHILE A TAD CONFUSING AND CONTRADICTIONARY IN A FEW WAYS...WAS JUST EPIC. AND WHAT MADE IT EPIC WAS JUST...YOU SORT OF COULDNT SEE IT COMING. I MEAN THINK ABOUT IT, YOU HAD TOSKOU AND THE LEADER OF BUSHIN CASTLE PREPARING FOR OTOKOJURU'S DOWNFALL, HIEN FIGHTING SHIRUKU, KORO'S GROUP RUNNING AROUND TRYING TO FIND A WAY TO SAVE HIEN OR GET OUT OF THE MANSION THEY WERE STUCK IN, THE OTHER OTOKOJURU STUDENT FIGHTERS SOMEWHERE ELSE UNKNOWN IN THE WORLD, WAN TAISEN PREPARING FOR "SOMETHING"...AND THEN...DOWN COMES THE WHIRLING BILLS.

THE LITTER MAY THAT MIYASHITA JUST BROKE WITH EVERYTHING HE WAS DOING TO LITERALLY THROW WHIRLING BILLS INTO HIS OWN PLOT BLOWING IT UP JUST TO GET TO AN ENDING WAS LITERALLY AND UTTERLY WIND-BLOWING IN CLARITY FOR A SERIES THAT IS WILLING TO TELL IT'S TALES NO MATTER WHAT IT DOES EVEN IF IT HAS TO RUIN ANY AND ALL DEVELOPMENTS JUST TO GET THEM OUT THERE BEFORE IT ALL ENDS, HAVING THIS LITERALLY BLOW UP OUT OF NOWHERE...WELL, IT JUST FELT ORIGINAL AND HILARIOUS WHILE AT THE SAME TIME...FELT LIKE SOMETHING OTOKOJURU WOULD DO. NOT TO MENTION THE MERE IDEA THAT WE HAVE ESSENTIALLY ALL OF THE OTOKOJURU FORCES, FROM THOSE STATIONED ELSEWHERE FIGHTING TO THE TEACHERS, THE OTHER STUDENTS IT HAD NO IDEA EDOHARA WOULD EVEN BE REMEMBERED, THE NEWLY-HEALED SHITTENKOU, AND OF COURSE EDOHARA ALL IN ONE PLACE CRASHING EVERYONE AROUND THEM AND TAKING PRISONERS (WELL...TOSKOU...THIS FELT LIKE THE ONE THING THIS ARC WAS MISSING ALL ALONG COMPARED TO ALL OF THE OTHER ARCS WE'VE SEEN OF OTOKOJURU, THE COMEDY, THE DISAPPOINTMENT AND JUST THE WHOLE FEELING THAT OTOKOJURU STAYS TOGETHER NOT JUST AS A FIGHTING FORCE...BUT AS A SCHOOL.

THIS TENDS TO BE ONE ASPECT THAT GETS NEGLECTED OR FORGOTTEN BY MOST FANS, BUT OTOKOJURU'S MAIN CONCEPT IS ABOUT LOYALTY AND FAITH IN FRIENDS AND CLASSMATES OF YOUR SCHOOL, AND WORKING TOGETHER NOT JUST WITH FELLOW FIGHTERS BUT WITH EVERYONE WHO IS PART OF IT. I SORT OF WISHED WE HAD ANOTHER EPIC MOMENT WHERE THE CLASSIC STUDENTS WOULD BE OF MORE USE LIKE THEIR USAGE IN THE KYOUKA TAIYON KYOUKATSU OR THE TAISEN SEINA OR EVEN THEIR APPEARANCE IN THE FINAL BATTLE OF KORO VS. KORO IN THE DABURAI, BUT THEIR APPEARANCE LIKE THIS HERE AND NOW JUST FELT LIKE IT MADE EVERYTHING WORTH IT...AND SEEING TOSKOU FINALLY SQUIRM AND DEFEATED MAKES IT ALL WORTHWHILE.

BUT AS EPIC AS THIS ENDING OF THE ARC WAS, THERE WERE STILL A FEW QUESTIONS I WAS LEFT WITH EVEN WITH MIYASHITA THROWING EVERYTHING AWAY LIKE THAT IN THE FINAL CHAPTER. FIRST OF ALL IS MOSTLY A TIME SCENARIO: HOW LONG DID IT TAKE FOR ALL THAT WE SAW FROM EDOHARA LANDING BACK ON EARTH TO THEIR SIEGE OF BUSHIN CASTLE? WE SAW FROM THE LAST CHAPTER THAT EDOHARA WAS STILL IN SPACE WHEN GOMBARNO DIED...BUT IT ESSENTIALLY FELT LIKE A FEW HOURS BETWEEN THAT AND THIS PERIOD BECAUSE KORO REPEATEDLY YUUNOJOU NOT TOO LONG AFTER GOMBARNO'S PASSING AND THE WHOLE BEGINNING OF THE FIGHT WITH SHIRUKU THAT HIEN HAD. HOW THE HECK COULD EDOHARA LITERALLY LAND ON EARTH, GET TO OTOKOJURU, ORGANIZE ALL THE STUDENTS AND TEACHERS AND SIEGE ON BUSHIN CASTLE IN SUCH A TIME PERIOD OF TIME? SURE IT HAD SOMETHING TO THINK TOO HARD ABOUT BUT THE THING DID FEEL SLIGHTLY OFF WITH HOW IT WAS DONE.

THE ONLY OTHER QUESTION I HAD WAS...THAT WAS SHIRUKU? HIS KNIFE HIEN FIGHTED OUT THAT DATE WASN'T DATE, BUT SOMEHOW WEH SEEING THE "FAKE" JUST DIDNT FEEL LIKE THE SHIRUKU WE SAW BACK WHEN HE DID THAT NINJA MISSION. ARE YOU SURE THAT WASN'T THE REAL SHIRUKU AND MERELY A STAND-IN WHILE HE SCOUTED OUT THE OTHER OTOKOJURU STUDENTS? IT PROBABLY WAS SINCE IT DID SOUND LIKE HIM BUT JUST HE SEEMED SO GENERIC WHEN HIS FACE CAME OFF THE ONLY OTHER QUESTION I HAD WAS "WHY THE HECK DID WAN TAISEN GO BACK TO THE SCHOOL ANYWAY?" HE COULDN'T HAVE ANTICIPATED EDOHARA'S RETURN. AND HE COULD HAVE STAYED BEHIND TO SAVE GOMBARNO IF HE DID. MY ONLY REAL THEORY HERE IS IT HAD TO DO WITH HELPING THE SHITTENKOU GET UP AND FINISH THEIR TREATMENT...BUT EVEN THEN THE WHOLE THING FEELS WEIRD BECAUSE HE SUDDENLY FEELS AT TIMES LIKE HE WAS IN TWO PLACES AT ONCE THIS WHOLE ARC. IT PROBABLY WAS FOR SOME IMPORTANT REASON...BUT WE MAY NEVER KNOW.

SO, WITH THE SEVEN TUSKS ARC OVER... I GUESS I CAN FINALLY GIVE A FEW OPINIONS ON WHAT HE JUST WITNESSED. FOR THE MOST PART, AS I MAY HAVE MENTIONED BEFORE, THIS ARC SORT OF FELT A TAD RUINED OR TIRED COMPARED TO SOME OF THE OTHER ARCS WE'VE SEEN PRIOR TO THIS. IT FELT JUST LIKE ARYASHTA WAS TRYING TO KEEP ALL OF THE FANS HE HAD ACCUMULATED IN THE DAIKOKU ARC, BUT AT THE SAME TIME KEEP TO SOME OF HIS WEIRD ROOTS EARLIER IN THE SERIES AND KEEP THE SERIES POPULAR AND RELEVANT IN A PERIOD WHERE OTOKOJURU WAS THE MINORITY AS OPPOSED TO THE MAJORITY.

REMEMBER: THE SERIES STARTED IN 1985 WHEN SERIES LIKE THIS WERE PROMINENT. BY 1991, THIS WAS A RELIC OF ANOTHER AGE AND EVEN SOME SERIES THAT WERE LIKE IT SUCH AS "JOLDS' BEASTS ADVENTURE" (WHICH STARTED AROUND '84/'85) HAD CHANGED TO ADAPT AS OPPOSED TO KEEPING THIS STYLE. THUS, OTOKOJURU NO LONGER REALLY HAD THE SAME SUPPORT OR INTEREST AS IT WOULD HAVE WHEN THE SERIES STARTED AND IT JUST WAS BOUND TO FALL APART IF IT DIDN'T JUST KEEP WHATEVER FANS IT DID HAVE. SURE IT WAS LUCKY FOR IT'S AGE TO LAST AS LONG AS IT DID (THE ONLY SERIES CLOSER THAN IT BY THIS POINT WERE KOOH KAME, DRAGON BALL AND CITY HUNTER), BUT THIS WASN'T A JUMP IT COULD THRIVE IN LIKE WHEN IT WAS POPULAR. THOUGH MAGAZINE POLITICS ASIDE, THE SERIES DID FEEL LIKE IT WAS HURTING WITH SOME OF HOW IT WAS TRYING TO TOP ITSELF AND ALL OF THE WEIRD STUFF IT DID IN THE DAIKOKU. AND WHEN YOU TRY TOO HARD, IT JUST ENDS UP SCREWING YOU, ESPECIALLY WHEN YOUR POPULARITY IS PLUMMETING. SO I GUESS HERE I WILL LIST THE FIVE "GOOD THINGS" AND "BAD THINGS" THAT CAME OUT OF THE SEVEN TUSKS ARC, MOSTLY TO SORT OF FIGURE IN MY HEAD WHERE IT WENT RIGHT...AND WHERE IT WAS UTTERLY AND COMPLETELY FALLING APART:

THE FIVE GOOD THINGS TO COME OUT OF THE SEVEN TUSKS ARC

-THE CONCEPT IN GENERAL: IT FELT IN A STRANGE WAY LIKE A NATURAL PROGRESSION IN ARC STYLE FROM A KYOUSATSU ARC, TO A PAIREN SEIHA ARC, TO A BIGGER KYOUSATSU AS HE SAID WITH THE SAKURAI, TO WHAT FELT LIKE A LARGER PAIREN SEIHA WITH THE SEVEN TUSKS. I LIKED THE WHOLE IDEA OF OTOKOJURU BONDING TOGETHER BY FIGHTING TO SAVE THEIR PRINCIPAL FROM SPACE BY FIGHTING AGAINST EVIL ASSASSINS IN WEIRD ARENAS AROUND THE WORLD AND FIGHTING IN MATCHES SET UPON BY CACKLEBOUNDED CIRCUITS. SOME OF THIS JUST FEELS LIKE CONCEPTS REFINED AND IMPROVED UPON BY SERIES LIKE YU YU HAKUSHO AND FLAME OF RECCA AND SEEMED LIKE IT WAS BUILDING UP IN A NICE, INTERESTING WAY...UNTIL...WELL...THAT.

-THE RESPECTFUL DEATHS: WHILE IT DID HURT LOSING THEM, HAVING THE RESPECTFUL, BOLD AND AWESOME ALL OUT DEATHS OF CHARACTERS LIKE AKASHI AND OGASAKI DID SHOW THERE WAS A TAD MORE DANGER COMPARED TO THE LAST ARC...WHERE IT JUST FELT LIKE THE GONJILU TRIO AND JARI WERE THE ONLY FATALITIES. HECK, EVEN WATCHING TORASHI'S SUPPOSED DEATH WAS PAINFUL...SURE HE WILL OUTLIVE THE COCKROACHES, BUT BEING GONE FOR TWO VOLUMES AFTER THAT DID AT LEAST GIVE US SOME PERIOD WHERE IT ACTUALLY FELT LIKE HE WAS DONE FOR.

-HAKURAI: THERE ARE SOME THINGS ABOUT HIM I CAN COMPLAIN ABOUT, BUT FOR THE MOST PART HE WAS THE BIGGEST BREATH OF FRESH AIR THIS ARC HAD, PARTICULARLY WITH HIM HAVING THE FUNNIEST AND WEIRDEST FIGHTS OF THE ARC. I MEAN, ONLY HE COULD HANDLE A GUY WHO MANIPULATES CROCODILES...OR A GIANT SPIDER...OR MAKE UP A SUPER KI-ON-APPEARING ATTACK THAT WAS MERELY WEIRD CAMOUFLAGE. THE FORMER BUCKLE-PAKU KID HAD POTENTIAL, LET ME SAY THAT.

-KUN TAIREN, SOMEHOW WITH SOJIMA DONE, IT FELT WEIRD SEEING HIM AS THE NEW LEADER OF OTOKOJURU, BUT IT DID MAKE SOME SENSE THINKING ABOUT IT, EVEN IF HE HADN'T BEEN SEEN SINCE THE PAIREN SEIHA. HE HAD THE TRUST AND RESPECT OF THE PRINCIPAL, HE KNEW HOW TO RUN THE SCHOOL, PLUS HIS ADVANCE HEALING SKILLS ARE VASTLY VALUABLE TO THE ENTIRE SCHOOL. AND WHILE I DO COMPLAIN ABOUT HIS WEIRD "ILLUSION" ATTACKS AT THE EARLY PART OF HIS RAID ON SHIKON TEMPLE, HIS FIGHT WITH KENNEDY WAS DEFINITELY A HIGHLIGHT OF THE ARC.

-SOJIMA AND THE ENDING: AS YOU SAW WITH THE LAST COUPLE CHAPTERS, SOJIMA JUST WRITES HIMSELF...AND HAVING HIM LITERALLY DESTROY EVERYTHING THIS ARC STOOD FOR JUST LIKE THAT WAS PROBABLY THE FUNDAMENT BY ARYASHTA HAD WRITTEN IN A LONG-TIME (AT LEAST SINCE THE DAIKOKU, IF NOT THE PAIREN SEIHA I MEAN, HE'S JUST A FORCE NOT EVEN SPACE CAN STOP).

THE SEVEN TERRIBLE THINGS TO COME OUT OF THE SEVEN TUSKS ARC:
 -TOUGHOU HYPE! I SORT OF DON'T HAVE TOO MUCH TO SAY ABOUT TOUGHOU HIMSELF SINCE HAVING A NEW FIRST-YEAR LEADER WITH MOMO MOVING TO HIS SECOND-YEAR MAKES SENSE. AND I DID FIND HIS LUMBERJACK FIGHT IN THE SEVEN TUSKS ARC SORT OF FUN BUT THE HYPE HE HAD AT THE START OF THE ARC JUST SEEMED RATHER UNNEEDED LIKE HE WAS BUILT UP...ONLY FOR ONE REAL FIGHT AND FADING INTO OBSCURITY. AND DON'T GET ME STARTED ON HIS FIGHTING STYLE. I MEAN IT'S UNIQUE TO FIGHT ON A MOTORCYCLE BUT IT JUST FEELS MORE LIKE A GAMBIT OF A BAD GUY THAN OF AN OTONOSJURU FIGHTER. IT JUST SORT OF FEELS A BIT LIKE SOME OTHER TIMES I'VE SEEN A CHARACTER GET MAJOR HYPE AT THE START OF AN ARC ONLY TO FADE INTO NOTHING LATER...TRUST ME HAVING MENTIONED IT IN ANOTHER SERIES RECENTLY

-DESTROYING THE COOLNESS: THERE WERE SOME CHARACTERS WHO JUST WERE COOL OR AWESOME CONSIDERING HOW THEY FOUGHT OR APPEARED IN THE PREVIOUS DABURA ARC...THAT JUST SEEMED TO FALL APART THANKS TO THIS ARC. PHARACH IS PROBABLY ONE THAT FEELS LIKE FELL THE MOST, GOING FROM A BEARRE BUT INNAME FIGHTER THAT NEARLY KILLED MOMO...TO, WELL...A TOGASHITORAMARU REPLACEMENT WHO DRINKS MONKEY PEE. I DON'T MIND PHARACH BEING MORE COMEDIC OR WEIRD COMPARED TO OTHER FIGHTERS, BUT HE JUST DON'T FEEL RIGHT AT ALL WITH HIS POSITION IN THIS ARC. HAKUNOH SORT OF ALSO FELL INTO THIS TRAP A BIT WITH THE TOGASHITORAMARU BIT, BUT AT LEAST HE HAD TWO OF THE MOST EPIC FIGHTS OF THE ARC. HECK, THERE WAS ALSO DATE FALLING FOR IT WITH HIS FIGHT...THE LESS SAID ABOUT THAT FIGHT DATE HAD THE BETTER, LET'S LEAVE IT AT THAT (SOME SORT OF FELL A FEW NOTCHES AS WELL FROM THE ARC)

-THE FORGOTTEN. ALRIGHT, LET ME JUST ASK THIS. WHY IS IT THAT WE GOT TWO FIGHTS FOR HAKUNOH (AS GREAT AS THEY WERE) AND NOT ONE THIS ARC FOR RAIBENT OR THE SANDMARA LEADER? OR EVEN FOR THE RETURNED GERNKHU OUTSIDE HIS MOMO FIGHT? AND WHILE I GET MOMO GETTING TWO FIGHTS...WHY DID HEN GET TWO OUTSIDE HIS "FINGERACE POTENTIAL"? YEAH...I GET A LOT HAS TO DO WITH HOW THE SERIES PLAYED OUT HERE BUT IT JUST FELT RATHER UNFAIR HOW SOME CHARACTERS GOT FIGHTS AND RESPECT AND NOT OTHERS.

-LET'S JUST GET THIS OVER WITH: PROBABLY ONE OF THE BIGGEST PROBLEMS WITH THIS ARC IF ONLY BECAUSE OF HOW RUSHED IT BECAME IS...WELL...A LOT OF FIGHTS, PARTICULARLY LATER ONES, JUST BECAME TOO BURDENED BY CONCENTRATING ON THE END OF THE FIGHT SO CLOSE TO THE BEGINNING OR RUSHING SEVERAL CHAPTERS WORTH OF CONTENT INTO ONE OR TWO. AS AWESOME AS KENKOH/TAAREN WAS, THE WAY IT JUST SKIPPED TO THE FINISH JUST SORT OF PREVENTED THE BUILD-UP IT WOULD HAVE HAD TO REALLY FULFILL INTO SOMETHING THAT WOULD HAVE JUST GONE INTO THE EPIC LEVELS FOR THIS SERIES

-GERKHU THE ALIEN: CAN SOMEONE TELL ME WHAT THE POINT OF BRINGING GERKHU BACK WAS? SURE IT WAS NICE HE WOULD RETURN AFTER WHAT HAPPENED IN THE DABURA AND SHOULD HAVE BEEN A COOL TWIST...BUT IT TURNED INTO A DISASTER WITH THE WAY IT WAS DONE, TURNING HIM INTO A BIG-EYED ALIEN (WELL THAT'S HOW I SAW HIM) AND CONTROLLED BY A MUTTY NAIL. THE LESS SAID THE BETTER, THAT'S WHAT I SAY.

-"BLOODHUNT MAGIC": DID WE REALLY NEED TWO CHAPTERS OF KEN TAAREN DEMONSTRATING GENJUTSU WITHOUT EXPLANATION? I MEAN IN A SERIES WITH SO MANY BEARRE STYLES THAT CAN BE EXPLAINED WITH JUST AN ENTRY, THE WAY THAT "MAGIC" WAS TRIED TO BE ADDED INTO THE SERIES JUST MADE IT FEEL OUT OF NOWHERE. SURE YOU COULD SAY AT LEAST IT WAS KEN TAAREN AND HE HAD WEIRD POWERS BUT...IT STILL JUST FEELS OUT OF NOWHERE NO MATTER HOW YOU TRY TO RATIONALIZE IT TO BE SMASHED WITH A WISDOMS BALL.

-TOUROU HYOLE: LET ME JUST SAY THIS HERE AND NOW: IF THE SERIES PLAYED OUT RIGHT, I WOULDN'T HAVE MINDED IT. IF WE HAD A SLOW BUILD-UP WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION UP TO THE REVELATION THAT TOUROU HAD CONTROLLED IT ALL ALONG, THEN IT WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN TOO BAD. IF HE HADN'T SUCH A CACKLING MAD VILLAIN WHO WAS Sliced IN TWO AND JUST COMPLETELY OUT OF HIS MIND AND TOO MUCH LIKE A STEREO-TYPICAL JERK...WELL OK, MAYBE THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE. BUT LET ME JUST SAY THIS: THE MOMENT HE REAPPEARED JUST TO PLAUNT TO BOAJIMA HE WAS BEHIND IT AND ALL OF THE CRAP THAT HE PULLED LIKE THAT FELT LIKE IT WAS JUST AN EXCUSE TO BRING HIM BACK AND MAKE HIM THE WHOLE BASIS OF EVERY AND ALL PROBLEMS THAT OTOROJURU HAD, AND WHEN HE DID RETURN, IT WAS TERRIBLE...IT JUST FELT LIKE IT THREW AWAY EVERYTHING WE HAD WITH NO BUILD-UP WHATSOEVER IN A CONVOLUTED FASHION (EVEN IF THOSE SORTS OF THINGS ARE TYPICAL WITH THIS SERIES) JUST TO MAKE HIM A CACKLING, MUSTACHE-TWIRLING JERK. ANYWAYITA COULD HAVE MADE IT WORK...BUT ULTIMATELY THE RETURN AND USAGE OF TOUROU IN THIS ARC UTTERLY MADE ME LOSE ALL RESPECT FOR HIM COMPARED TO WHAT WE SAW IN THE DAIBUKAI, WHICH WAS PERFECT AND DEFINED FOR HOW HE WAS. AND PROBABLY JUST A DEFINITION OF ALL THAT WENT WRONG WITH THE WHOLE ARC IN GENERAL: THE RUSHING AND THE PROBLEMS THAT JUST SCREW EVERYTHING UP LEADING TO THE UTTER MESS THAT HAD TO BE SMASHED WITH A WRECKING BALL.

SO, WITH ALL THAT SAID, WHAT'S LEFT FOR OTOROJURU? THERE IS A WHOLE VOLUME LEFT EVEN IF THE SEVEN TURNS ARE DONE...AND LET ME JUST SAY THIS, AFTER WHAT WE JUST WENT THROUGH, ANYWAYITA BETTER MAKE THIS FINAL VOLUME OF OTOROJURU WORTHWHILE...BUT AFTER THE INSANE RETURN TO BASICS THE LAST COUPLE CHAPTERS HAD, MAYBE THERE IS HOPE AFTER ALL.